



*Optometry Council of New South Wales*  
*Annual Report 2012*

Optometry Council of New South Wales

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The Hon. Jillian Skinner MP  
Minister for Health  
Minister for Medical Research  
Level 31, Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Minister

On behalf of the Optometry Council of New South Wales, we are pleased to submit the Council's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 for presentation to Parliament.

These documents have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984*, the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Regulation 2010* and the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* as amended.

Throughout the reporting period, the Council maintained a productive relationship with its primary stakeholders, namely, the Health Care Complaints Commission, the Optometry Board of Australia, AHPRA, the School of Optometry and Vision Science, UNSW and the Optometrists Association Australia (NSW). The Council wishes to acknowledge their collective contribution in assisting the Council to meet its charter of protecting public health and safety through managing concerns about the performance, conduct and health of registered optometrists and students in training.

It is satisfying to report from a fiscal perspective that the Council exercised its functions and met its statutory and regulatory obligations within budget and finished the year with a slight operating profit.

Yours sincerely

David Pye  
Council President

Philip Anderton  
Deputy President

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# About the Council



The Optometry Council of New South Wales (the Council) is a statutory body established to manage notifications (complaints) about conduct, performance and health matters concerning registered optometrists and health and conduct matters related to optometry students in New South Wales (NSW).

The Council undertakes its regulatory functions in partnership with the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC), which is a separate statutory authority, established under the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993*.

The Optometry Council is one of 10 Councils operating in NSW. The Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA) provides secretariat and corporate support to the NSW health professional Councils to assist them in carrying out their regulatory responsibilities.

## Charter

The Council is constituted pursuant to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW) No 86a* (the Law) to exercise the powers, authorities, duties and functions imposed by the Law.

## Aims and Objectives

The purpose of the Council is to act in the interests of the public by ensuring that registered optometrists are competent to practise and that optometric students are fit to have contact with members of the public whilst they undertake approved programs of study.

The Council manages a range of programs, services and procedures to achieve this purpose. As a result, members of the public can be assured that registered optometrists are required to maintain appropriate standards of conduct and professional performance.

## Council Membership

Clause 4(1) of the *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2010* prescribed that there are four members of the Council appointed by the Governor.

The following members held those positions for the full year of the reporting period:

- (a) three registered optometrists, at least one of whom has NSW as their principal place of practice:

- Mr John Davis BOptom

- Assoc Professor David Pye BOptom MOptom FCLSA

- Dr Philip Anderton BOptom BSc MScOptom PhD

- (b) One Australian lawyer nominated by the Minister:

- Mr Tom Kelly LLB

The term of office of all Council members expired on 30 June 2012.

In accordance with the Law, Mr Davis and Mr Kelly were ineligible for reappointment, as both had served as members of the former Optometrists Registration Board and the Optometry Council for consecutive terms of office exceeding nine years (Schedule 5C, Part 2, Clause 12(2)). The Council began the process of identifying members to recommend for appointment from 1 July 2012 and acknowledged the significant contribution made by the retiring members over many years.

The President and Deputy President positions are prescribed pursuant to Schedule 5C, Part 2 of the Law. Mr John Davis was President of the Council.

## Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council is as follows:

President	\$2,336 per annum
Deputy President	\$1,752 per annum

Additionally, Council members receive sitting fees of \$436 per day and \$218 per half day for the conduct of Inquiries at a meeting of the Council and \$256 per day and \$128 per half day for participating in counselling sessions or at specially convened workshops, forums or meetings.

Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of Council committees, panels, Tribunals and other regulatory activities also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

## Attendance at Council Meetings

The Council usually met on the second Wednesday of each month and met 11 times during the reporting period. The Council did not meet in January 2012.

Attendance at meetings was as follows:

Name	Meetings Attended	Leave Of Absence Granted
Mr John Davis	11	
Assoc Professor David Pye	11	
Dr Philip Anderton	10	1
Mr Tom Kelly	8	3

## Committees of the Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Council did not appoint any Committees during the reporting period.

## Regulatory Committees, Panels and Disciplinary Bodies

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees, panels and disciplinary bodies that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory responsibilities. The activities and decisions of these bodies are reported in the section *Regulatory Activities* below.

## Optometry Tribunal

The Optometry Tribunal of New South Wales is established under s 165 and comprises four members. The Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson is an Australian lawyer appointed by the Governor. For each Tribunal hearing the three other members are appointed by the Council.

The Tribunal deals with serious complaints that may lead to suspension or deregistration, appeals against Council decisions regarding disciplinary matters and appeals against decisions of the National Board in relation to registration matters.

Matters may be referred to a Tribunal by the Council or the HCCC Director of Proceedings.

The Tribunal concluded one matter during the year. Refer to the *Regulatory Activities* section for details. Tribunal members are listed in Appendix 3.

## Optometry Assessment Committee

The Assessment Committee is established under s 172A and comprises four members appointed by the Minister, of whom three are registered

optometrists, and one who is not a registered health practitioner.

No matters were referred to the Assessment Committee during the year.

Refer to Appendix 3 for members in 2011/2012.

## Impaired Registrants Panels

Impaired Registrants Panels (IRPs) are established under s 173 to deal with matters concerning practitioners who suffer from a physical or mental impairment which affects or is likely to affect their capacity to practise. The Panel consists of two or three members appointed by the Council. At least one member must be a registered medical practitioner and at least one member must be a registered optometrist. Panelists are drawn from a pool of members who are usually experienced in working with practitioners demonstrating problems with their health.

One matter was considered by an IRP during the year.

Refer to Appendix 3 for members in 2011/2012.

## Performance Review Panels

Performance Review Panels (PRPs) are established under s 174 to review the professional performance of a registered health practitioner. Three members are appointed to each Panel: two must be optometrists and one is a lay person representing the community.

No matters were referred to a PRP during the year.

## Executive Officer

Under s 41Q of the Law there is to be an Executive Officer of the Council who is responsible for the Council's affairs subject to any directions the Council makes.

Mr Michael Jaques is the Executive Officer of the Council.

## Education and Research

Section 41S of the Law allows the Council to establish an Education and Research Account. The Council may expend these funds for education and research purposes relevant to its regulatory functions, and for meeting any associated administrative costs incurred.

The Council did not expend any monies from the Education and Research Account during the reporting period. However, during 2008/2009, the Council's predecessor, the Optometrists

Registration Board, awarded a grant to the University of Sydney to fund research into *The Frequency of Endothelial Progenitor Cells in Peripheral Blood - predictive indicator of progression to wet age-related macular degeneration (ARMD)*.

The Council received the research team's final report at the meeting on 19 October 2011 and was gratified that the grant had enabled the completion of these studies. The Council considered that the outcomes had justified provision of the grant; that the research had been innovative and cutting edge; that the resultant publications were of value and that the findings had major implications for understanding the pathogenesis and potential future therapy for ARMD.

The research has been published in the following academic journals:

- Chan-Ling T, Dahlstrom JE, Koina et al (2011), Evidence of hematopoietic differentiation, vasculogenesis and angiogenesis in the formation of human choroidal blood vessels. *Experimental Eye Research* 92 (5), 361–376, 2011.
- Chan-Ling T, Koina M, McColm JR, et al (2011), Role of CD44+ Stem Cells in Mural Cell Formation in the Human Choroid: Evidence of Vascular Instability Due to Limited Pericyte Ensheathment. *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science* 52 (1), 399–410, 2011.

## Overseas Travel

The Council did not fund any overseas travel during the reporting period.

## Promotion of Council Activities

The Council website ([www.optometrycouncil.nsw.gov.au](http://www.optometrycouncil.nsw.gov.au)) is updated on a regular basis and is the principal medium for disseminating information to optometrists, students and the public.

The Council's Annual Report for 2010/2011 and Annual Reports of the former Board are accessible on the website.

## Complaints Received About Council Administrative Processes

The Council acknowledges that the trust and confidence of the public are essential to its role and values all forms of feedback. The Council has established a complaint handling policy and procedures for addressing complaints regarding its administrative processes or about its activities, staff, service delivery and processes. No complaints were received from members of the public or external organisations.

## Legislative Changes

During the reporting period the NSW Parliament passed a number of minor amendments to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)*, and the Governor made an order which amended ss 41B and 165. The Governor also approved a number of amendments to the *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2010*. Details of the legislative changes are at Appendix 1.



# Regulatory Activities



The primary responsibility of the Council, in conjunction with the HCCC, is to protect the public by managing performance, conduct and health concerns relating to optometrists practising and the health and conduct of students training in NSW.

This section details the Council's regulatory programs and results for the year.

## National Registration

NSW health professionals are registered under the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme. Through the Scheme, the Optometry Board of Australia (National Board) is responsible for registering health practitioners and students and for determining the requirements for registration.

The National Board approves accredited programs of study which provide the necessary qualifications for registration. It also develops and approves standards, codes and guidelines for the profession which inform the Council's regulatory activities.

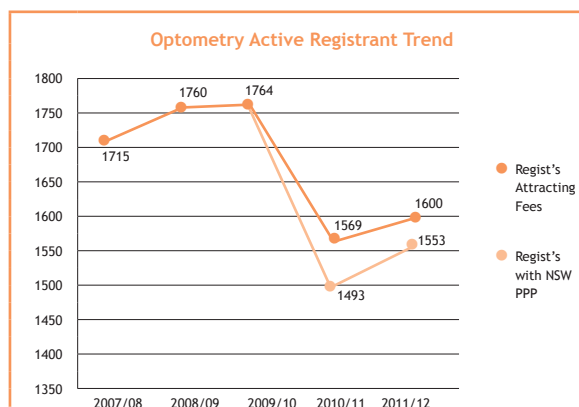
Further information about the operations of the National Board can be obtained on the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) website ([www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)).

## Registrations in NSW

Information about registration and registrant numbers included in this Report provides context for the Council's regulatory activities and functions. Registration data is supplied by AHPRA.

At 30 June 2012, there were 1,553 registered optometrists whose principal place of practice was in NSW. This represents 34% of the total number of optometry practitioners registered under the Scheme across Australia.

The graph below provides information about the number of optometrists registered in NSW from 2007/2008 to 2011/2012. There was a 4% increase in 2011/2012 (60 practitioners) compared with 2010/2011. The reason for this increase is unknown, but it is not attributable to a commensurately higher number of graduates being granted registration at the end of the 2011 academic year.



Students are also registered. AHPRA advised that the number of NSW students registered as at 30 June 2012 was 316. Figures are based on the student's residential address, not the location of the education provider.

Registrations by type as at 30 June 2012 were as follows:

Registration Type	Principal Place of Practice (PPP) in NSW	NSW Share of registrants with no PPP listed	Registrants for whom fees were paid to NSW (PPP + no PPP)
General	1,516	42	1,558
Limited	0	0	0
Non-Practising	37	5	42
Total	1,553	47	1,600

## Notifications (Complaints) Received

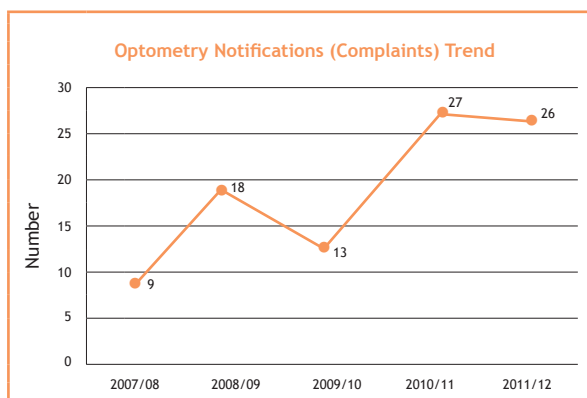
Any person may make a notification (complaint) against a registered optometrist or student. Notifications (complaints) may relate to the conduct, health or performance of a registered optometrist or the health or conduct of a registered student. A notification may be made to the HCCC, the Council, or AHPRA.

The *Health Care Complaints Act 1993* requires the Council and the HCCC to advise each other about notifications (complaints) received and to consult concerning the course of action to be taken. A notification (complaint) made to the Council is deemed to be also made to the HCCC, and vice versa.

The Council received 26 new notifications (complaints) during the reporting period.

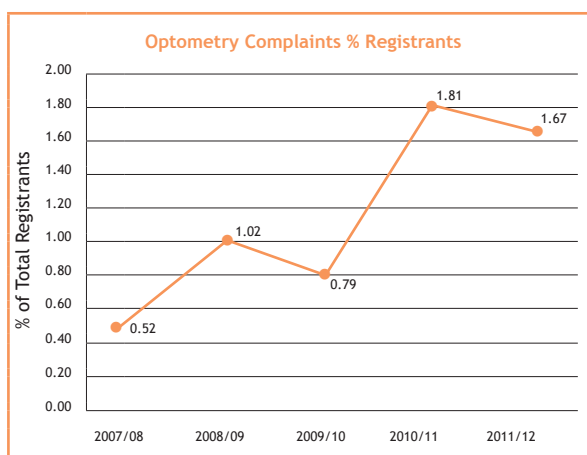
The following graph indicates the trend in notifications received since 2007/2008 and shows a slight decrease in the past year.





Note: Notifications received up to 1 July 2010 have been adjusted to exclude matters not covered by the Law such as advertising, registration issues.

The graph below shows the level of notifications (complaints) as a percentage of the number of registered optometrists in NSW, which in 2011/2012 is less than 1.7%.



A more accurate measure is the percentage of optometrists about whom a notification was received i.e. a practitioner with more than one notification is only counted once in the calculation. These data are only available since 1 July 2010. On this basis, the percentage of notifications (complaints) received on optometrists with a principal place of practice in NSW was 1.74% for the year.

	2010/2011	2011/2012	Variance
% of optometrists with notifications received	1.61	1.74	0.13

Of the optometrists with a new notification in 2011/2012, one had two notifications that had been received in previous years.

The notifications managed by the Council in 2011/2012 were as follows:

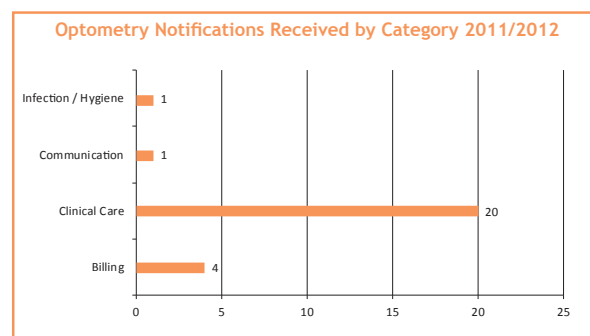
Notifications (complaints)	Number
Case volume open* at 1/7/2011	5
Notifications received in 2011/2012	26
Notifications closed in 2011/2012	24
Case volume open* at 30/6/2012	7
Total case volume managed in 2011/2012	31

\* See Glossary for definition of open matters.

When notifications (complaints) are received, they are classified to the conduct, health or performance stream, depending on the nature of the matter. In some instances, more than one stream may be applicable however one stream is identified as the primary stream based on the seriousness of the matter. There were 22 new notifications (complaints) classified as performance issues and four as conduct issues. There were no new notifications related to health issues.

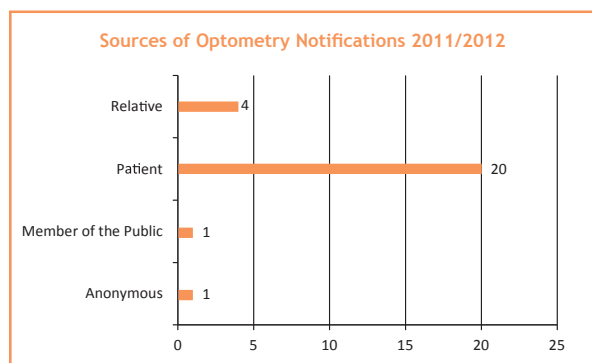
Notifications are also allocated to an issue category. The Council has adopted the issue categories that have been developed by the AHPRA, which facilitates reporting across jurisdictions.

The number of notifications received by the issue category was as below.



Clinical care matters were related to missed, incorrect or delayed diagnosis (10); inadequate or inappropriate treatment (5); inadequate or inappropriate procedure (2); delayed, inadequate or inappropriate referral (1), inadequate or inappropriate testing or investigation (1) and inappropriate delay in care (1).

The sources of notifications received in 2011/2012 were:



Of the total notifications (complaints) managed by the Council in 2011/2012, 81% (25) were primarily related to performance issues; 16% (5) to the conduct of practitioners, and 3% (1) related to health matters.

### Mandatory Notifications

The Law requires health practitioners, employers and education providers to make mandatory notifications to AHPRA if they believe an optometrist or student has behaved in a way that constitutes notifiable conduct i.e.

For a health practitioner:

- the practice of the profession while intoxicated by alcohol or other drugs, engaging in sexual misconduct in connection with practise, placing the public at substantial harm because the practitioner has an impairment or placing the public at risk because the practitioner has practised in a way that constitutes a significant departure from accepted professional standards

For a student:

- has an impairment that, in the course of the student undertaking clinical training, may place the public at substantial risk of harm.

AHPRA then refers the matter to the Council.

One mandatory notification was made during the reporting period by another health professional on the grounds that the first party allegedly placed the public at risk by practising in a way that constituted a significant departure from accepted professional standards.

The mandatory notification represented 4% of all notifications received in the reporting period. No mandatory notifications were made about students.

No mandatory notifications matters were carried over from the last reporting period.

### Notifications (Complaints) Management

A decision is made by the Council (in consultation with the HCCC) about which agency will manage the matter. Sometimes this decision is deferred until further assessment or investigation is carried out. Information on the processes for making and managing notifications (complaints) is available on the Council's website ([www.optometrycouncil.nsw.gov.au](http://www.optometrycouncil.nsw.gov.au)).

Following an assessment of each notification (complaint), the HCCC and the Council determine if the matter should be dismissed or whether the matter requires some form of action. A notification (complaint) may be dismissed if the matter falls outside the jurisdiction of the Council or the HCCC; if it does not raise issues of sufficient seriousness to warrant further action, or the parties resolved the matter.

Further assessment or investigation occurs when it is decided that action is required. Some matters may also be referred for further inquiry by a Tribunal, Panel or Committee.

Following consultation with the HCCC, the majority of matters were either discontinued or referred to the Council for further management. One matter was resolved during the assessment process.

Of the notifications managed in 2011/2012, two were referred to or managed by other legislated committees or adjudication bodies, other than regular Council meetings: one health matter was referred to an IRP and one conduct matter was heard by the Tribunal.

### Protective Orders - Immediate Action under s 150 of the Law

The Council must exercise its powers to either suspend an optometrist's registration or impose conditions on the optometrist's practice, if it is satisfied that such action is appropriate for the protection of the health or safety of the public, or is otherwise in the public interest.

During the reporting period, the Council exercised its protective powers on one occasion when it lifted the suspension of an optometrist's registration following their agreement to practise in accordance with certain health and practice conditions that had been recommended by an IRP. The issue that led to the former Registration Board taking immediate action under the now repealed *Optometrists Act 2002* was concern for the practitioner's mental health.

## Health

The object of the Council's health program is to protect the public while maintaining the high standards the public is entitled to expect, and enabling optometrists with an impairment to remain in practice when it is safe to do so.

One optometrist was managed through the health stream in 2011/2012; the issue related to mental health.

## Council Approved Practitioner Assessments

The Council may refer an optometrist or student, who is the subject of a notification (complaint), for a health assessment to determine whether the person has an impairment. This may include a medical, physical, psychiatric or psychological examination or test.

During the reporting period, one health assessment was conducted.

## Impaired Registrants Panels

The Law provides for the convening of Impaired Registrants Panels (IRPs) to deal with matters concerning optometrists who suffer from a physical or mental impairment which affects or is likely to affect the optometrist's capacity to practise.

An IRP is non-disciplinary and aims to assist optometrists to manage their impairment while remaining in professional practice as long as this poses no risk to the public. The Panel's role is to inquire into and assess the matter, obtaining reports and other information from any source it considers appropriate, and to make recommendations to the Council.

The Panel may counsel the optometrist, or recommend that the Council counsel the optometrist, impose conditions on their registration, or suspend registration for a period if the Council is satisfied the optometrist or student has voluntarily agreed to the conditions or suspension.

In the reporting period, one notification was considered by an IRP. This resulted in the imposition of conditions on the optometrist's registration with referral for an IRP review.

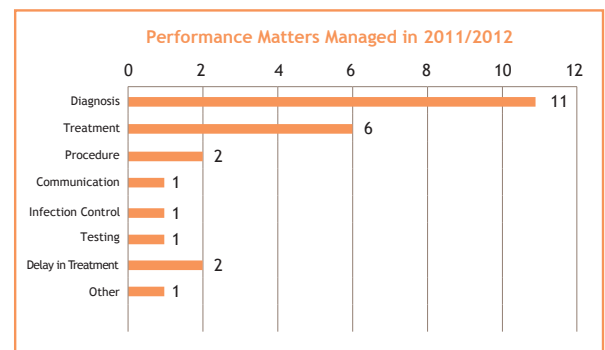
## Performance

Performance issues generally relate to concerns about the standard of clinical performance, that is, whether the optometrist's knowledge,

skill or judgment possessed, or care exercised is significantly below that standard reasonably expected of a practitioner of an equivalent level of training or experience.

The Council's performance program provides an avenue for education and retraining where inadequacies in competency are identified, while at all times ensuring that the public is appropriately protected. The program aims to address patterns of practice rather than one-off incidents unless a single incident is thought to be demonstrative of a broader problem.

There were 25 optometrists managed in the performance program in 2011/2012. The majority were identified with primary performance issues related to diagnosis, as shown below. Many optometrists had more than one issue of concern about their performance.



## Performance Assessments

The Council may require an optometrist to participate in a performance assessment to assist it in determining a course of action. The aim of such an assessment is to establish whether the optometrist's performance is at a standard expected of a similarly trained or experienced practitioner. Consequently, assessments are intended to be broad-based and not limited to the substance of the matter that triggered it.

The assessment may be conducted in the optometrist's own practice environment by assessors appointed by the Council who are familiar with the relevant area of practice of optometry. As an alternative, the School of Optometry at the University of New South Wales has agreed in principle to assist in facilitating a performance assessment when a matter comes to the Council's attention that indicates the optometrist's professional performance, or any other aspect of their performance, is or may be unsatisfactory.

The Council did not refer any matters for a performance assessment and no assessments were carried over from the previous reporting period.

### Performance Review Panel

If a performance assessment finds that the professional performance of a practitioner is unsatisfactory, the Council may decide to refer the matter to a Performance Review Panel (PRP). The role of the Panel is to review the professional performance of the optometrist by examining the evidence placed before it to establish whether the optometrist's practice meets the standard reasonably expected of an optometrist of 'an equivalent level of training or experience' at the time of the review.

Where deficiencies are identified, the optometrist is required to undertake remediation tailored to their individual needs. This may entail attending courses, undertaking supervision or engaging in additional continuing professional development. Conditions on practice may also be required to ensure the public is protected while the practitioner is undertaking remediation.

There were no PRPs convened during the reporting period.

### Conduct

Conduct issues generally relate to behavioural acts or omission and often go to the question of character and may be categorised as unsatisfactory professional conduct or professional misconduct.

Five matters were dealt with in the conduct stream this year. One matter related to a boundary violation and four matters related to billing issues.

### Investigations by the Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC)

During 2011/2012, there were no notifications (complaints) under investigation by the HCCC.

### Council Inquiry

Complaints may be dealt with by way of disciplinary proceedings held at a meeting of the Council conducted under Part 8 Division 3 Subdivision 5 of the Law. The resulting action taken may include a caution or reprimand, imposition of conditions on registration, referral for assessments or some other action.

During the reporting period, there were no complaints of unsatisfactory professional conduct against optometrists heard by way of Council Inquiry.

### Optometry Tribunal

The Optometry Tribunal deals with serious notifications (complaints) that may lead to suspension or deregistration, appeals against Council decisions regarding disciplinary matters and appeals against decisions of the National Board in relation to registration matters.

During the reporting period, the Tribunal finalised one matter that was prosecuted by the HCCC.

On 6 February 2012 the Tribunal finalised a complaint against Mr David Ford. The HCCC alleged that the respondent (Mr Ford) was guilty of unsatisfactory professional conduct and professional misconduct related to inappropriate conduct, in that he had developed a personal and sexual relationship with a female patient.

The issues considered were:

- whether the judgment possessed by the respondent in the practice of optometry was significantly below the standard reasonably expected of a practitioner of an equivalent level of training or experience, and
- whether the respondent had engaged in improper or unethical conduct relating to the practice of optometry.

The Tribunal found the complaint proven and ordered that the respondent's registration be suspended for two months; that he complete an ethics course approved by the Council, and that he undertake professional counselling for a minimum period of nine months.

The Reasons for Decision of the Tribunal are published in full on the Australasian Legal Information Institute website ([www.austlii.edu.au](http://www.austlii.edu.au)) or may be accessed via the Council's website.

### Reviews

Optometrists who have had conditions placed on their practice or registration by a Tribunal may request a review of those conditions.

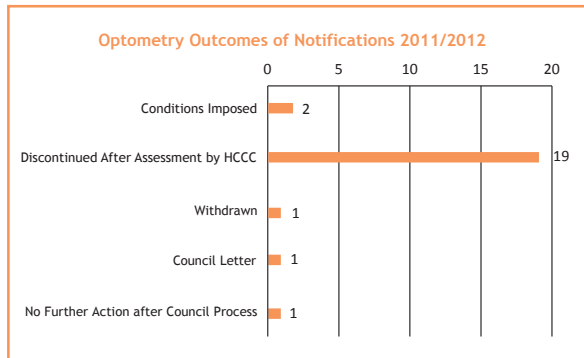
There were no applications received for review in 2011/2012 or carried over from the previous period.

## Appeals to the Supreme Court

Optometrists may appeal a decision made by the Tribunal to the Supreme Court. There were no appeals in 2011/2012.

## Notifications (Complaints) Outcomes

The outcomes of all notifications (complaints) closed in 2011/2012 were as below:



Of the 24 notifications closed in 2011/2012, 83% (20) were discontinued after assessment by the HCCC or required no action after consideration by the Council. The reasons for closing the matters were that the complaints were not substantiated; no clinical or conduct issues of concern were identified.

The stage at which matters were closed was 22 at assessment, one at a Tribunal hearing and one following an IRP (see the Glossary for a description of each stage).

At the commencement of the reporting period, one matter received under the former Act was open. This matter was closed in the health stage of management and resulted in conditions being imposed on the optometrist's practice.

All matters lodged under the former Act have now been finalised.

## Counselling

Under the Law, the Council may direct an optometrist or student to attend for counselling. This is a non-disciplinary process that enables the Council to address performance or conduct concerns in an informal but sound and influential manner. Counselling may be conducted by two or three Council members.

During the reporting period, the Council did not deal with any notifications by directing the practitioner to attend for counselling.

## Matters Referred to HCCC for Assisted Resolution and Conciliation

The Council may refer a notification to the HCCC for assisted resolution or conciliation to be dealt with under the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993*. In 2011/2012, no such matters were referred to the HCCC.

## Matters Referred to Another Entity

During the reporting period, the Council did not refer any matters for management by another entity, such as AHPRA, Medicare Australia or the Ministry of Health.

## Outcomes of Mandatory Notifications

The outcome of the mandatory notification completed in the reporting period was that no further action was required. The Council considered the optometrist did not pose a risk to public health and safety after receiving confirmation that the conduct in question no longer featured in the optometrist's span of responsibilities.

## Monitoring and Compliance of Orders and Conditions

The Council is responsible for monitoring compliance with orders made and conditions imposed by the Optometry Tribunal, a Council Inquiry, a PRP, an immediate action s 150 decision, or conditions following an IRP.

Conditions fall into two categories:

- practice conditions, which are published on the AHPRA website ([www.ahpra.gov.au](http://www.ahpra.gov.au)) or
- health conditions, which are not published.

During the year, two cases commenced being monitored: one in the health stream and the other in the conduct stream related to ethical clinical practice. The monitoring of both optometrists remains active as at 30 June 2012.

During 2011/2012, effective working relationships with AHPRA facilitated compliance monitoring across both organisations.



# Management and Administration



## Shared Services

The Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA) is an administrative unit of the Health Administration Corporation (HAC) which provides shared executive and corporate services to the NSW health professional Councils to support their regulatory responsibilities.

The HPCA currently supports 10 Councils:

- Chiropractic Council of New South Wales
- Dental Council of New South Wales
- Medical Council of New South Wales
- Nursing and Midwifery Council of New South Wales
- Optometry Council of New South Wales
- Osteopathy Council of New South Wales
- Pharmacy Council of New South Wales
- Physiotherapy Council of New South Wales
- Podiatry Council of New South Wales
- Psychology Council of New South Wales

The Council's Executive Officer and support staff provide secretariat services to enable it to fulfil its statutory role in regulating NSW health practitioners. In addition the HPCA coordinates shared administrative, financial, legal and policy services across all of the Councils to assist them to meet their legislative and policy obligations as statutory bodies.

On behalf of the Councils, the HPCA liaises with AHPRA regarding financial, registration and reporting matters; with the HCCC on complaints management issues; and with the Ministry of Health on human resource matters and providing advice and responses to the Minister for Health and the Director-General on regulatory matters and appointments.

This coordinated approach provides efficiencies through shared services that would be costly for small bodies like the Councils to implement on their own. It also allows Councils to direct their attention to protection of the public by concentrating on their core regulatory functions.

A service level agreement (SLA) between the Council and the HPCA has been developed for implementation next financial year. The SLA articulates the services the HPCA provides and key performance indicators against which to assess performance. It provides certainty and a shared understanding for the Council and

the HPCA on the range and quality of services provided. This addresses one of the significant matters raised by the Audit Office of NSW in the audit of the 2010/2011 financial statements.

## Access to Information - GIPA

The Council is committed to the principles of the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* (GIPA Act) and provides access to policies, publications and information through the website that comprises open access and proactively released information. The Publication Guide (now called Agency Information Guide) was updated and has been revised as required under amendments to the GIPA Act.

Staff participated in training provided by the Office of the Information Commissioner.

### Review of proactive release program - Clause 7(a)

In accordance with s 7(3) of the GIPA Act, the Council reviewed its program for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available.

The Council's program for the proactive release of information involves ensuring that new and revised policies and other information are progressively released to provide optometrists, complainants and the public with access to information relevant to regulation and the notification (complaint) management process.

During the reporting period, this program was reviewed by maintaining a policy register and monitoring the completion and approval of relevant information. As a result of this review, the Council released the following information proactively: policy documents related to subpoenas, policy management, dealing with administrative complaints, and gifts and benefits. These have been made available on the website, as well as links to relevant NSW Health policies and National Board policies.

Additions to the website include a section for the public to lodge a notification (complaint) about an optometrist or student, and access to information on scheduled hearings and the decisions made by Tribunals.

### Number of access applications received - Clause 7(b)

During the reporting period, the Council received no formal access applications (including withdrawn applications but not invalid applications).



### Number of refused applications for Schedule 1 information - Clause 7(c)

No applications for Schedule 1 information were refused during the reporting period.

The Council's GIPA statistics are reported in Appendix 2.

### Privacy

The Council is subject to the provisions of the *Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998* and the *Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*.

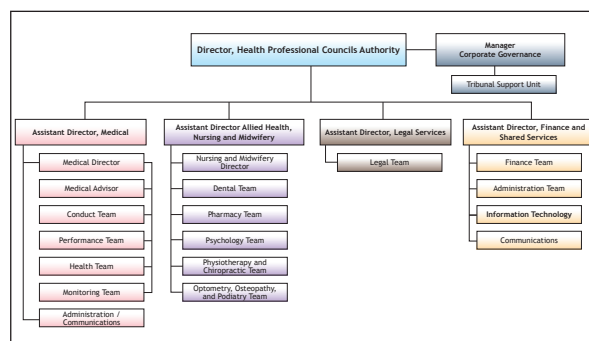
No complaints regarding privacy matters were received during the reporting period. A privacy management plan will be developed in 2012/2013.

### Human Resources

The HPCA staff who support the Council are employed under Chapter 1A of the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002*.

As at 30 June 2012 there were 89 permanent full-time and nine temporary full-time positions, of whom 0.6 FTE provided secretariat support directly to the Council.

#### HPCA Organisation Chart as at 30 June 2012



The HPCA adopts NSW Ministry of Health personnel policies and practices and ensures that staff had access to these policies through the Ministry intranet. All staff signed the new NSW Health Code of Conduct and had the opportunity to discuss it at staff meetings.

During the year the HPCA commissioned a review of the organisational structure to determine the best allocation of staffing resources and opportunities to streamline some services that are shared across all of the Councils.

### Learning and Development

The HPCA provided learning and development opportunities for staff that were aligned with

Council and corporate priorities, and that met staff individual training needs identified through the Coaching and Performance System (CAPS).

Members of the Occupational Health and Safety Committee received training in the requirements of the *Work Health and Safety Act (NSW) 2011* and the *Work Health and Safety Regulation (NSW) 2011* which came into effect on 1 January 2012. From this date the Committee became the Work Health and Safety Committee.

Selected staff attended courses on GIPA; TRIM training and record keeping awareness; MaCS training; writing procedures and policy documents and preparing Ministerial correspondence.

The introduction of the TRIM records management system and Monitoring and Complaints System (MaCS) for case management included intensive training, development of procedure manuals and ongoing support following implementation.

The Council aims to ensure that staff and members understand the provisions of the Law and its administration.

Priorities for 2012/2013 include induction of members joining the Council from 1 July 2012 and a focus on developing knowledge of the Law, Council's regulatory responsibilities and processes to protect the public. Legal information sessions for staff are being developed as part of an ongoing program of continuous learning and education.

### Public Interest Disclosures

The Council is subject to the provisions of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 1994* and the reporting requirements of the *Public Interest Disclosures Regulation 2011*. The Council has endorsed an internal reporting policy and has provided a report to the NSW Ombudsman's online reporting tool.

Staff and Council members are aware of the policy and information is available on the requirements and processes for making and managing disclosures.

There were no public interest disclosures (PIDs) made by staff or Council members during the year:

	January 2012 - June 2012
Number of public officials who made PIDs	0
Number of PIDs received	0
Of PIDs received, number primarily about:	
Corrupt conduct	0
Maladministration	0
Serious and substantial waste	0
Government information contravention	0
Local government pecuniary interest contravention	0
Number of PIDs finalised	0

Note: The number of PIDs finalised only refers to PIDs that have been received since 1 January 2012.

## Industrial Relations Policies and Practices

The HPCA implemented the Ministry of Health industrial relations policies and practices, and maintained a harmonious industrial environment throughout the year.

## Audit and Risk Management

NSW Treasury has granted the Council an exemption from the Internal Audit and Risk Management Policy for the NSW Public Sector (TPP09-05) on the grounds that it is a small agency for which the administrative and cost burden of full compliance would be prohibitive. However the Council has appropriate internal audit and risk management practices in place in line with the core requirements of TPP09-05, in particular:

- the HPCA has established a Health Professional Councils Audit and Risk Committee comprising three members, with a majority of independent members and an independent chair
- developed an Audit and Risk Committee charter consistent with the content of the 'model charter'
- established and maintained an enterprise risk management process including a Risk Register and three year rolling internal audit plan, which covers the operation of all of the Councils.

Due to the Councils' small budgets the HPCA has not established a specific Chief Audit Executive role. To meet this requirement, IAB is commissioned to undertake the internal audits nominated in the internal audit plan and the HPCA Manager, Corporate Governance provides the secretariat to the Audit and Risk Committee and ensures that audit outcomes and risk

management activities are regularly reported to and monitored by the Committee.

Since its inception in January 2012 the Audit and Risk Committee reviewed the 2011/2012 Risk Register, monitored internal audits and reviews and the Council's financial and management reports.

During the year the HPCA paid particular attention to implementing the recommendations arising from the Audit Office of NSW audit of the 2010/2011 financial statements. In addition, the HPCA updated the Risk Register, developed a fraud risk assessment tool and initiated work on a business continuity plan.

The IAB conducted an internal audit of the financial controls over payments to Council, committee and panel members. The audit found no evidence of fraud but recommended a number of policy and control measures to improve internal processes and the development of a policy and procedures. All of the review's recommendations were accepted and are being addressed.

A proposed audit of information and records management was postponed to enable the scope to be revised to focus on the content and accessibility of records. This review will be rescheduled during 2013 and development of a business continuity plan has been initiated.

## Information Management Systems

A priority this year was to improve information systems and the management of information, which is one of the Council's key assets. This has enabled information to be more readily shared and has improved the accuracy, reliability and security of corporate and regulatory information.

The TRIM records management system was implemented for corporate and Council records, with particular focus on electronic document management to improve version control and document tracking. A business classification scheme was developed and TRIM was linked to the case management system to reduce double handling and recording of practitioner related information.

A new case management system, called Monitoring and Complaints System (MaCS) was also launched. It includes practitioner records related to Council decisions and conditions imposed on practice by the Optometry Tribunal. MaCS enables standardised information about practitioners and the progress and outcomes

of matters to be recorded and monitored. It also improved the accuracy and timeliness of statistical reporting.

Documentation of an IT disaster recovery plan began and will be completed as part of the business continuity plan.

### Exemptions from the Reporting Provisions

As a small statutory body, the Council is exempt from certain reporting provisions and provides a triennial report in relation to multicultural policies and services programs; disability services; equal employment opportunity; occupational health and safety and waste management (WRAPP). The Council last reported on these provisions in the 2010/2011 Annual Report and will next report in 2013/2014.

The Council continued to meet its compliance obligations with regard to each of these matters and remains committed to implementing the relevant policy requirements.

### Consultants

The 10 health professional Councils together commissioned consultancies related to governance, system improvements and the ongoing development of the HPCA's shared services to Councils.

The Council made the following contribution to these consultancies:

#### Engagements costing less than \$50,000

Service Provided	No.	Cost inc. GST \$
Financial management	3	756
Governance	3	527
Administration	2	182
Information management and systems	1	378
Total	9	1,843

### Insurance

The Council's insurance activities were conducted by the HPCA through the NSW Ministry of Health's insurance cover with the NSW Treasury Managed Fund, and included:

- legal liability - public liability, professional indemnity, product liability
- Comprehensive Motor Vehicle Insurance Policy
- Personal Accident Policy for volunteer workers

- property coverage
- workers compensation.

### Annual Report Costs

The Council printed 60 copies of the 2011/2012 Annual Report at an approximate cost of \$25.88 per copy (GST inc.).

### Financial Management

The HPCA provides financial management services to the Council including the payment of accounts, budget preparation and monitoring and coordination of regular financial reporting to the Council. HPCA staff worked with the AHPRA on behalf of the Council to determine practitioner fees and the regulatory component of those fees paid to the Council to enable it to undertake its regulatory functions.

A new model for the allocation of costs across the Councils is being developed to ensure the equitable distribution of shared costs and staffing resources across all Councils. It will be implemented from 2012/2013 once the impact of the methodology across 13 Councils has been tested.

### Format

The accounts of the Council's administrative operations, as well as Education and Research activities, together with the Independent Auditor's Report are set out in the Financial Statements included in this Annual Report.

### Performance

The Council's accounts performance as reported in the Financial Statements is as follows:

	\$
Revenue	174,532
Operating expenditure	168,718
Education and research expenditure	-
Net Profit/ (Loss)	5,855
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)*	160,559
* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of:	40,979

### Investment Performance

The Council, through a Special Interest Arrangement with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia earned an average of 3.65% p.a. on its daily bank balances. In addition, an average rate of interest of 4.20% was earned on investments held in a Cash Deposit Account.

## Payments Performance

The Council's accounts are managed by the Health Administration Corporation. The HPCA is in the process of identifying small business suppliers as required by NSW Treasury Circular TC11/21. The consolidated accounts payable performance report for the HPCA is shown below:

Quarter	Current (within due date) \$	Less than 30 days overdue \$	Between 30 to 60 days overdue \$	Between 60 to 90 days overdue \$	More than 90 days overdue \$
<b>All suppliers</b>					
September	1,932,856	1,094	0	74	0
December	2,007,267	23,963	0	0	0
March	1,152,270	89	0	0	0
June	1,437,800	31,854	0	0	0
<b>Small business suppliers</b>					
September					
December					
March					
June					

Measure	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun
<b>All suppliers</b>				
Number of accounts due for payment	116	122	132	108
Number of accounts paid on time	113	92	131	107
Actual percentage of accounts paid on time (based on number of accounts)	97.4	75.4	99.2	99.1
Dollar amount of accounts due for payment	1,934,024	2,031,230	1,152,359	1,469,654
Dollar amount of accounts paid on time	1,932,856	2,007,267	1,152,270	1,437,800
Actual percentage of accounts paid on time (based on \$)	99.9	98.8	100	97.8
Number of payments for interest on overdue accounts				
Interest paid on overdue accounts				

Measure	Sept	Dec	Mar	Jun
<b>Small business suppliers</b>				
Number of accounts due for payment				
Number of accounts paid on time				
Actual percentage of accounts paid on time (based on number of accounts)				
Dollar amount of accounts due for payment				
Dollar amount of accounts paid on time				
Actual percentage of accounts paid on time (based on \$)				
Number of payments for interest on overdue accounts				
Interest paid on overdue accounts				

### Budget 2012/2013

The budget for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 is as follows:

	\$
Revenue	173,436
Operating expenditure	(148,656)
Education and research expenditure	-
Net Profit/(Loss)	24,780

The 2012/2013 budget is subject to revision.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Optometry Council of New South Wales

To Members of the New South Wales Parliament

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Optometry Council of New South Wales (the Council), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2012, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows, for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 30 June 2012, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards
- are in accordance with section 41B of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* (the PF&A Act) and the Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2010

My opinion should be read in conjunction with the rest of this report.

### The Council's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The members of the Council are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the PF&A Act, and for such internal control as the members of the Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those Standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Council's preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members of the Council, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.



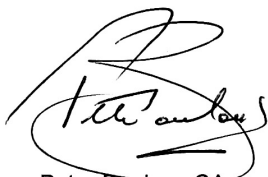
My opinion does *not* provide assurance:

- about the future viability of the Council
- that it has carried out its activities effectively, efficiently and economically
- about the effectiveness of its internal control
- about the security and controls over the electronic publication of the audited financial statements on any website where they may be presented
- about other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial statements

### **Independence**

In conducting my audit, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian Auditing Standards and other relevant ethical pronouncements. The PF&A Act further promotes independence by:

- providing that only Parliament, and not the executive government, can remove an Auditor-General
- mandating the Auditor-General as auditor of public sector agencies, but precluding the provision of non-audit services, thus ensuring the Auditor-General and the Audit Office of New South Wales are not compromised in their roles by the possibility of losing clients or income.



Peter Boutous CA  
Director Financial Audit Services

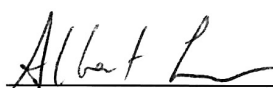
18 October 2012  
SYDNEY

**OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES****YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2012****STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

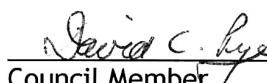
Pursuant to section 41C(1B) *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, and in accordance with the resolution of the members of the Optometry Council of New South Wales, we declare on behalf of the Council that in our opinion:

1. The accompanying financial statements exhibit a true and fair view of the financial position of the Optometry Council of New South Wales as at 30 June 2012 and financial performance for the year then ended.
2. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Australian Accounting Standards, Accounting Interpretations, the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983*, the *Public Finance and Audit Regulation 2010*, and the Treasurer's Directions.

Further, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member

Date: 12. OCT. 2012

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Council Member

Date: 15. OCT. 2012

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Statement of Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2012

	Notes	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>EXPENSES EXCLUDING LOSSES</b>			
Operating expenses			
Personnel services	2(a)	(97,464)	(120,763)
Other operating expenses	2(b)	(45,882)	(38,004)
Depreciation and amortisation	2(c)	(4,691)	(7,956)
Finance costs	2(d)	(151)	(189)
Other expenses	2(e)	(20,530)	(17,156)
Education and research expenses	3	-	(9,353)
<b>Total Expenses Excluding Losses</b>		<b>(168,718)</b>	<b>(193,421)</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Registration fees		162,326	129,386
Other revenue		40	3,670
Interest revenue	5	12,166	12,865
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>174,532</b>	<b>145,921</b>
Gain/(Loss) on disposal	6	41	105
<b>Net Result</b>		<b>5,855</b>	<b>(47,395)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<b>5,855</b>	<b>(47,395)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2012

	Notes	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	266,030	268,417
Receivables	8	4,360	5,244
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>270,390</b>	<b>273,661</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Plant and equipment	9		
Leasehold improvements		1,879	2,154
Motor vehicles		220	633
Furniture and fittings		240	-
Other		3,702	3,503
<b>Total Plant and equipment</b>		<b>6,041</b>	<b>6,290</b>
Intangible assets	10	5,647	5,591
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>11,688</b>	<b>11,881</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>282,078</b>	<b>285,542</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	11	40,622	49,716
Fees in advance	12	64,849	65,224
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>105,471</b>	<b>114,940</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	13	4,697	4,547
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>4,697</b>	<b>4,547</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>110,168</b>	<b>119,487</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>171,910</b>	<b>166,055</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated funds		171,910	166,055
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>171,910</b>	<b>166,055</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Statement of Changes In Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2012

	Notes	Accumulated Funds \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2011</b>		166,055
Changes in accounting policy		-
Correction of errors		-
<b>Restated Total Equity</b>		<b>166,055</b>
 <b>Net Result for the Year</b>		 5,855
Other comprehensive income		-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2012</b>		<b>171,910</b>
 <b>Balance at 1 July 2010</b>		 -
Transfer in of net assets due to restructure	19	353,466
Payment to Ministry of Health	19	(140,016)
Restated transfer balance as at 1 July 2010		213,450
 <b>Net Result for the Year</b>		 (47,395)
Other comprehensive income		-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2011</b>		<b>166,055</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2012

	Notes	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
<b>Payments</b>			
Personnel services		(95,231)	(227,008)
Finance costs		-	-
Other		(78,293)	(55,349)
<b>Total Payments</b>		<b>(173,524)</b>	<b>(282,357)</b>
<b>Receipts</b>			
Receipts from registration fees		163,217	137,083
Interest received		12,337	13,182
Other		40	3,670
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<b>175,594</b>	<b>153,935</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>(128,422)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment		619	319
Purchases of plant and equipment		(5,076)	(7,486)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>		<b>(4,457)</b>	<b>(7,167)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from restructure of previously abolished Board	19	-	580,440
Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency as per Government Gazette No 90	19	-	(36,418)
Payment to NSW Department of Health (owner) as per Government Gazette No 90	19	-	(140,016)
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>404,006</b>
<b>Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash</b>		<b>(2,387)</b>	<b>268,417</b>
Opening cash and cash equivalents		268,417	-
<b>Closing Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>266,030</b>	<b>268,417</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### a. Reporting Entity

The Optometry Council of New South Wales (The Council) as a not-for-profit reporting entity with no cash generating units, performs the duties and functions contained in the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW) No 86a* (the Law).

These financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2012 have been authorised for issue by the Council on 15 October 2012.

#### b. Basis of Preparation

The Council has adopted the going concern basis in the preparation of the financial statements.

The Council's financial statements are general purpose financial statements and have been prepared in accordance with:

- applicable Australian Accounting Standards (which include Australian Accounting Interpretations)
- the requirements of the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1983* and Regulation and
- the Financial Reporting Directions published in the Financial Reporting Code for NSW General Government Sector Entities or issued by the Treasurer.

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost.

Judgements, key assumptions and estimations management has made are disclosed in the relevant notes to the financial statements.

All amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar and are expressed in Australian currency.

#### c. Insurance

The Council's insurance activities are conducted through the NSW Treasury Managed Fund Scheme of self-insurance for Government entities. The expense (premium) is determined by the Fund Manager based on past claim experience.

#### d. Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except that:

- the amount of GST incurred by the Council as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense and
- receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. However, the GST components of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the Australian Taxation Office are classified as operating cash flows.

#### e. Income Recognition

Income is measured at the fair value of the consideration or contribution received or receivable.

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme for all health professionals commenced on 1 July 2010. NSW opted out of the complaint handling component of the National scheme and the health professional Councils were established in NSW effective from 1 July 2010 to manage the complaints function in a co-regulatory arrangement with the NSW Health Care Complaints Commission.

Under Section 26A of the Law, the complaints element of the registration fees payable during 2012 by NSW health practitioners was decided by the Council established for that profession subject to approval by the Minister for Health.

The Council, under the Law, receives fees on a monthly basis from the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) being the agreed NSW complaints element for the 2012 registration fee.

Fees are progressively recognised as income by the Council as the annual registration period elapses. Fees in advance represent unearned income at balance date.

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### f. Personnel Services

All employees of the Council reside with the Ministry of Health (MOH). Staff costs are shown in the Statement of Comprehensive Income as personnel services in the financial statements of the Council. Provisions in the Statement of Financial Position represent amounts payable to the MOH in respect of personnel services.

### g. Interest Revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method as set out in AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*.

### h. Education and Research

The Council is responsible for the administration of the Education and Research account. The Minister for Health may determine that a set amount of funds out of the fees received to be transferred to the Education and Research account.

### i. Assets

#### i. Acquisitions of Assets

The cost method of accounting is used for the initial recording of all acquisitions of assets controlled by the Council. Cost is the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the other consideration given to acquire the asset at the time of its acquisition or construction or, where applicable, the amount attributed to that asset when initially recognised in accordance with the requirements of other Australian Accounting Standards.

The cost of assets recognised in the financial statements has been calculated based on the benefits expected to be derived by the Council.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised at their historical cost at the date of acquisition.

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Where payment for an item is deferred beyond normal credit terms, its costs are cash price equivalent, i.e. the deferred payment amount is effectively discounted at an asset-specific rate.

#### ii. Capitalisation Thresholds

The Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA) acquires all assets on behalf of the Council. Shared use assets that cost over \$5,000 at the time of purchase by the HPCA are capitalised. These capitalised shared use assets are then allocated to the Council using an appropriate allocation method. The minimum capitalisation threshold limits applied to the Council for the asset are \$48.50 (all Council shared use asset), or \$59.00 (Pitt Street shared use asset), whichever is applicable.

#### iii. Impairment of Plant and Equipment

As a not-for-profit entity with no cash generating units, AASB 136 *Impairment of Assets* effectively is not applicable. AASB 136 modifies the recoverable amount test to the higher of fair value less costs to sell and depreciated replacement cost. This means that, where an asset is already measured at fair value, impairment can only arise if selling costs are material. Selling costs for the entity are regarded as immaterial.

#### iv. Depreciation of Plant, Equipment and Leasehold Improvements

Depreciation and amortisation is provided for on a straight-line basis for all depreciable assets so as to write off the amounts of each asset as it is consumed over its useful life to the Council.

Depreciation and amortisation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

Depreciation rates used are as follows:

- Plant and equipment 20% - 25%
- Furniture and fittings 16% - 20%
- Motor vehicles 25% - 29%
- Leasehold improvements 1.7% - 4%

#### v. Revaluation of Plant and Equipment

There has been no revaluation on any of the Council's plant and equipment as they are non-specialised assets. Non-specialised assets with short useful lives are measured at depreciated historical cost as a surrogate for fair value.

#### vi. Maintenance

Day-to-day servicing costs or maintenance are charged as expenses as incurred, except where they relate to the replacement of a component of an asset, in which case the costs are capitalised and depreciated.

#### vii. Intangible Assets

The Council recognises intangible assets only if it is probable that future economic benefits will flow to the entity and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Where an asset is acquired at no or nominal cost, the cost is its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

All research costs are expensed. Development costs are only capitalised when certain criteria are met.

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be finite.

Intangible assets are subsequently measured at fair value only if there is an active market. As there is no active market for the entity's intangible assets, the assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation.

Intangible assets are tested for impairment where an indicator of impairment exists. If the recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount is reduced to recoverable amount and the reduction is recognised as an impairment loss.

The Council's intangible assets are amortised using the straight line method over a period of four years. In general, intangible assets are tested for impairment where an indicator of impairment exists. However, as a not-for-profit entity with no cash generating units, the Council is effectively exempted from impairment testing.

#### viii. Loans and Receivables

Loans and receivables are recognised initially at fair value, usually based on the transaction cost or face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less an allowance for any impairment of receivables. Short-term receivables with no stated interest rate are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial. An allowance for impairment of receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Council will not be able to collect all amounts due. The amount of the allowance is the difference between the assets carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. Bad debts are written off as incurred.

#### j. Liabilities

##### i. Trade and Other Payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Council and other amounts. Payables are recognised initially at fair value, usually based on the transaction cost or face value. Subsequent measurement is at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Short-term payables with no stated interest rates are measured at the original invoice amount where the effect of discounting is immaterial.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

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#### ii. Personnel Services - Ministry of Health

Personnel services are acquired from the (MOH). As such the MOH accounting policy is below.

Liabilities for salaries and wages (including non-monetary benefits), annual leave and paid sick leave that are due to be settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the service are recognised and measured in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date at undiscounted amounts based on the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Unused non-vesting sick leave does not give rise to a liability as it is not considered probable that sick leave taken in the future will be greater than the benefits accrued in the future.

The outstanding amounts of payroll tax, workers' compensation insurance premiums and fringe benefits tax, which are consequential to employment, are recognised as liabilities and expenses where the employee benefits to which they relate have been recognised.

All employees receive the Superannuation Guarantee Levy contribution. All superannuation benefits are provided on an accumulation basis - there are no defined benefits. Contributions are made by the entity to an employee.

#### iii. Provision for Make Good

Provisions include the Council's proportionate liability (allocated to the Council using an appropriate allocation method), of the estimated make good liability, discounted to today's present value.

#### k. Equity

##### Accumulated Funds

The category 'Accumulated Funds' includes all current and prior period funds.

#### l. Comparative information

Except when an Australian Accounting Standard permits or requires otherwise, comparative information is disclosed in respect of the previous period for all amounts reported in the financial statements.

Comparative amounts, where applicable (in Notes 2b and 2e), are reclassified for the purpose of comparability with the current year figures.

#### m. New Australian Accounting Standards issued but not effective

There are no new Accounting Standards applicable this financial year.

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 2. EXPENSES EXCLUDING LOSSES

#### a. Personnel services expenses

Personnel services expenses are acquired from the MOH and comprise the following:

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Salaries and wages (including recreation leave)	82,753	104,673
Superannuation	8,115	9,413
Payroll taxes	6,000	6,654
Workers compensation insurance	596	23
	<u>97,464</u>	<u>120,763</u>

#### b. Other operating expenses include the following:

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Auditor's remuneration	5,500	5,500
Rent and building expenses	11,675	10,231
Council fees	7,592	12,118
Sitting fees	15,229	2,874
Contracted labour	5,886	7,281
	<u>45,882</u>	<u>38,004</u>

#### c. Depreciation and amortisation expense

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Depreciation		
Motor vehicles	118	77
Furniture and fittings	-	1,087
Other	1,097	844
	<u>1,215</u>	<u>2,008</u>
Amortisation		
Leasehold improvement	275	598
Intangible assets	3,201	5,350
	<u>3,476</u>	<u>5,948</u>
	<u>4,691</u>	<u>7,956</u>
<b>Total Depreciation and Amortisation</b>	<b>4,691</b>	<b>7,956</b>

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### d. Finance costs

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Unwinding of discount rate on make good provision	151	189
	<u>151</u>	<u>189</u>

### e. Other expenses

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Subsistence and transport	1,684	3,036
Fees for service	10,901	6,057
Postage and communication	796	1,403
Printing and stationery	5,061	2,633
Equipment and furniture	140	842
General administration expenses	1,948	3,185
	<u>20,530</u>	<u>17,156</u>

## 3. EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

### i. Education and Research Expenses

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Other expenses	-	9,353
<b>Total (excluding GST)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,353</u>

### ii. Education and Research Account Reconciliation

	Notes	2012 \$	2011 \$
Opening balance 1 July 2011		15	-
Transfer of assets due to restructure		-	6,704
Deposits		40,000	3,332
Interest		964	268
		<u>40,979</u>	<u>10,304</u>
Outgoings		-	(10,289)
<b>Closing Balance 30 June 2012</b>	<b>7</b>	<u><b>40,979</b></u>	<u><b>15</b></u>



# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 4. EXPENDITURE MANAGED ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL THROUGH THE HEALTH ADMINISTRATION CORPORATION

The Council's accounts are managed by the Health Administration Corporation. Executive and administrative support functions are provided by the HPCA, which is an administrative unit of the Health Administration Corporation. The Health Administration Corporation has determined the basis of allocation of material costs to the Council.

Salaries and associated oncosts are paid by the MOH. The MOH continues to pay for the staff and associated oncosts. These costs are reimbursed by the Council to the MOH.

Details of transactions managed on behalf of the Council through the Health Administration Corporation are detailed above in notes 2 to 11.

### 5. INTEREST REVENUE

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Interest revenue from financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss	12,166	12,865
	<b>12,166</b>	<b>12,865</b>

The interest received, was paid under a Special Interest Arrangement with the bank which applied to all daily balances of bank accounts administered on behalf of all health professional Councils by the Health Administration Corporation. In addition to daily balances receiving interest at a rate revised each week, the bank also waived normal bank fees payable such as transaction fees, dishonoured cheques fees, and charges applicable to overseas draft fees.

	2012 %	2011 %
Weighted Average Interest Rate	3.65	4.43

### 6. GAIN/(LOSS) ON DISPOSAL

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Plant and equipment		
Net book value disposed during the year	(578)	(214)
Proceeds from sale	619	319
<b>Total Gain on Disposal</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>105</b>

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

#### 7. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	150,039	144,232
Short-term bank deposits	43,702	43,702
Cash at bank - held by HPCA*	72,289	80,483
	<u>266,030</u>	<u>268,417</u>

\* This is cash held by the HPCA, an administrative unit of the Health Administration Corporation, on behalf of the Council for its operating activities.

The Council operates the bank accounts shown below:

	Notes	2012 \$	2011 \$
Operating account**		109,060	144,217
Education and research account**	3	40,979	15
		<u>150,039</u>	<u>144,232</u>

\*\* managed by the HPCA, an administrative unit of the Health Administration Corporation.

#### 8. RECEIVABLES

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Other receivables	3,314	2,761
Interest receivable	1,046	1,217
Trade receivables	-	1,266
	<u>4,360</u>	<u>5,244</u>

No receivables are considered impaired.

The trade receivables include monies that AHPRA has collected from registrants as at 30 June 2012 and has remitted the monies to HPCA in July 2012.

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 9. PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The Council has an interest in plant and equipment used by all health professional Councils. Plant and equipment is not owned individually by the Council. The amounts recognised in the financial statements have been calculated based on the benefits expected to be derived by the Council.

	Leasehold Improvements \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture & Fittings \$	Other \$	Total \$
<b>At 1 July 2011</b>					
Gross carrying amount	2,167	920	-	7,909	10,996
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(13)	(287)	-	(4,406)	(4,706)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,503</b>	<b>6,290</b>

<b>At 30 June 2012</b>					
Gross carrying amount	1,926	283	240	8,634	11,083
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(47)	(63)	-	(4,932)	(5,042)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>3,702</b>	<b>6,041</b>

#### Reconciliation

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current reporting period is set out below:

	Leasehold Improvements \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture & Fittings \$	Other \$	Total \$
<b>Year Ended 30 June 2012</b>					
Net carrying amount at start of year	2,154	633	-	3,503	6,290
Additions	-	283	240	1,296	1,819
Disposals	-	(578)	-	-	(578)
Depreciation	(275)	(118)	-	(1,097)	(1,490)
<b>Net Carrying Amount at End of Year</b>	<b>1,879</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>3,702</b>	<b>6,041</b>

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

	Leasehold Improvements \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture & Fittings \$	Other \$	Total \$
<b>At 1 July 2010</b>					
Transfer of net assets due to restructure	405	758	1,086	3,412	5,661
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>758</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>3,412</b>	<b>5,661</b>

<b>At 30 June 2011</b>					
Gross carrying amount	2,167	920	-	7,909	10,996
Accumulated depreciation and impairment	(13)	(287)	-	(4,406)	(4,706)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,503</b>	<b>6,290</b>

#### Reconciliation

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the prior reporting period is set out below:

	Leasehold Improvements \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture & Fittings \$	Other \$	Total \$
<b>Year Ended 30 June 2011</b>					
Net carrying amount at start of year	405	758	1,086	3,412	5,661
Additions	2,347	166	-	935	3,448
Disposals	-	(214)	-	-	(214)
Depreciation	(598)	(77)	(1,086)	(844)	(2,605)
<b>Net Carrying Amount at End of Year</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,503</b>	<b>6,290</b>

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Council has an interest in intangible assets used by all health professional Councils. The asset is not owned individually by the Council. The amounts recognised in the financial statements have been calculated based on the benefits expected to be derived by the Council.

	Software Work in Progress	Software	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>At 1 July 2011</b>			
Cost (gross carrying amount)	814	10,127	10,941
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(5,350)	(5,350)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>4,777</b>	<b>5,591</b>
<b>At 30 June 2012</b>			
Cost (gross carrying amount)	186	14,582	14,768
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(9,121)	(9,121)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>5,461</b>	<b>5,647</b>
	Software Work in Progress	Software	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Year Ended 30 June 2012</b>			
Net carrying amount at start of year	814	4,777	5,591
Additions	186	3,071	3,257
Transfers	(814)	814	-
Disposals	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	(3,201)	(3,201)
<b>Net Carrying Amount at End of Year</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>5,461</b>	<b>5,647</b>

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

	Software Work in Progress	Software	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>At 1 July 2010</b>			
Transfer of net assets due to restructure	-	5,417	5,417
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5,417</b>	<b>5,417</b>
<b>At 30 June 2011</b>			
Cost (gross carrying amount)	814	10,127	10,941
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	-	(5,350)	(5,350)
<b>Net Carrying Amount</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>4,777</b>	<b>5,591</b>
	Software Work in Progress	Software	Total
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Year Ended 30 June 2011</b>			
Net carrying amount at start of year	-	5,417	5,417
Additions	814	4,710	5,524
Disposals	-	-	-
Amortisation	-	(5,350)	(5,350)
<b>Net Carrying Amount at End of Year</b>	<b>814</b>	<b>4,777</b>	<b>5,591</b>

### 11. PAYABLES

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Personnel services - Ministry of Health	25,156	22,923
Trade and other payables	15,466	26,793
	<b>40,622</b>	<b>49,716</b>

### 12. FEES IN ADVANCE

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Fees in advance	64,849	65,224
	<b>64,849</b>	<b>65,224</b>

Unearned revenue from NSW Regulatory Fees received on behalf of the Council by the HPCA from the AHPRA.

### 13. PROVISIONS

	2012 \$	2011 \$
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Make good	4,697	4,547
	<b>4,697</b>	<b>4,547</b>

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### Movement in provisions (other than personnel services)

Movements in each class of provision during the financial year, other than personnel services, are set out below:

	Make good 2012 \$
Carrying amount at the beginning of financial year	4,547
Additional provisions recognised	-
Amount used	-
Unused amounts reversed	-
Unwinding/change in discount rate	150
Carrying amount at the end of financial year	<u>4,697</u>

### 14. COMMITMENTS FOR EXPENDITURE

#### i. Capital Commitments

Aggregate capital expenditure for the acquisition of audio visual equipment at Level 6 477 Pitt Street office contracted (2011 acquisition of a Monitoring and Complaints System and leasehold improvements) for at balance date and not provided for:

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Not later than one year	230	2,495
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	-
<b>Total (including GST)</b>	<u>230</u>	<u>2,495</u>

#### ii. Operating Lease Commitments

Future non-cancellable operating lease rentals not provided for and payable:

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Not later than one year	12,690	13,050
Later than one year and not later than five years	46,871	62,537
<b>Total (including GST)</b>	<u>59,562</u>	<u>75,587</u>

### 15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Council has only one related party, being the HPCA, an administrative unit of the Health Administration Corporation.

The Council's accounts are managed by the Health Administration Corporation. Executive and administrative support functions are provided by the HPCA. All accounting transactions are carried out by the HPCA on behalf of the Council.

# Optometry Council of New South Wales

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### 16. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

There are no material unrecorded contingent assets and liabilities as at 30 June 2012.

### 17. RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES TO NET RESULT

	2012 \$	2011 \$
Net result	5,855	(47,395)
Depreciation and amortisation	4,691	7,956
(Decrease)/Increase in receivables	884	(2,601)
Increase/(Decrease) in fees in advance	(375)	10,617
Increase/(Decrease) in payables	(9,094)	(96,381)
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	150	(513)
Net gain/(loss) on sale of plant and equipment	(41)	(105)
<b>Net Cash used on Operating Activities</b>	<b>2,070</b>	<b>(128,422)</b>

### 18. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Council's main risks arising from financial instruments are outlined below, together with the Council's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk. Further quantitative and qualitative disclosures are included throughout the financial statements.

The Council has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of risk management and reviews and agrees on policies for managing each of these risks.

#### i. Financial Instrument Categories

Financial Assets	Note	Category	Carrying Amount 2012 \$	Carrying Amount 2011 \$
<b>Class</b>				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	7	N/A	266,030	268,417
Receivables <sup>1</sup>	8	Loans and receivables (measured at amortised cost)	1,046	2,483
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>				
<b>Class</b>				
Payables <sup>2</sup>	11	Financial liabilities (measured at amortised cost)	40,622	49,716

Notes:

1. Excludes statutory receivables and prepayments (i.e. not within scope of AASB 7).

2. Excludes statutory payables and unearned revenue (i.e. not within scope of AASB 7).



## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

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#### ii. Credit Risk

Credit risk arises when there is the possibility of the Council's debtors defaulting on their contractual obligations, resulting in a financial loss to the Council. The maximum exposure to credit risk is generally represented by the carrying amount of the financial assets (net of any allowance for impairment).

Credit risk arises from the financial assets of the Council, including cash, receivables, and authority deposits. No collateral is held by the Council. The Council has not granted any financial guarantees.

##### Cash

Cash comprises cash on hand and bank balances held by the Council and the HPCA on behalf of the Council. Interest is earned on the daily bank balances.

##### Receivables - Trade Debtors

All trade debtors are recognised as amounts receivable at balance date. Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. An allowance for impairment is raised when there is objective evidence that the entity will not be able to collect all amounts due. This evidence includes past experience, and current and expected changes in economic conditions and debtor credit ratings. No interest is earned on trade debtors. The Council is not materially exposed to concentrations of credit risk to a single trade debtor or group of debtors.

##### Authority Deposits

The Council has placed funds on deposit with the Commonwealth Bank. These deposits are fixed term, the interest rate payable by the bank is negotiated initially and is fixed for the term of the deposit. The deposits at balance date were earning an interest rate of 3.40%, while over the year the weighted average interest rate was 4.07%. None of these assets are past due or impaired.

#### iii. Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Council will be unable to meet its payment obligations when they fall due. The HPCA on behalf of the Council continuously manages risk through monitoring future cash flows and maturities planning to ensure adequate holding of high quality liquid assets.

The liabilities are recognised for amounts due to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not invoiced. Amounts owing to suppliers (which are unsecured) are settled in accordance with the policy set out in Treasurer's Direction 219.01. If trade terms are not specified, payment is made no later than the end of the month following the month in which an invoice or a statement is received. Treasurer's Direction 219.01 allows the Minister to award interest for late payment.

All payables are current and will not attract interest payments.

#### iv. Market Risk

The Council does not have exposure to market risk on financial instruments.

## Optometry Council of New South Wales

### Notes to the Financial Statements

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#### 19. EQUITY TRANSFERS

As a result of the commencement of the Law, assets and liabilities of the Optometrists Registration Board were transferred to the newly established Optometry Council of New South Wales on 1 July 2010, and the former Optometrists Registration Board was abolished.

The establishment of the Council and the transfer of assets and liabilities referred to above was classified as a restructure of administrative arrangements and accounted for in accordance with NSW Treasury's Accounting Policy: Contribution by owners made to wholly owned Public Sector Entities (TPP09- 03) as a contribution by owners. Assets and liabilities were transferred at book values at 30 June 2010 per transferor entities as these book values were considered reasonable approximations of fair value to the Council, with a net credit to Equity of \$353,466.

Transactions and adjustments recognised on 1 July 2010 as a result of the restructure were as follows:

- a) The New South Wales Government Gazette No 90, dated 2 July 2010 ordered that the Council make the following payments:
  - i) An amount of \$140,016 to the NSW Department of Health in respect of an unrecorded liability for the Council's contribution towards the national registration implementation costs. This was treated as a transaction with owners and debited to Equity, and subsequently paid on 2 September 2010; and
  - ii) An amount of \$36,418 to the AHPRA being the estimated registration fees component of total fees received in advance by the former Board as at 30 June 2010. This amount was reclassified from Fees in Advance to Trade and Other Payables, and subsequently paid on 14 March 2011.
- b) Net adjustments to increase make-good provisioning by \$1,021 in respect of the fair value of leasing arrangements acquired.

#### 20. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There are no events after the reporting period to be included in the financial statements as of 30 June 2012.

**End of Audited Financial Statements**

# Appendix 1 - Legislative Changes

The following amendments were made to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)* and the *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2010*.

## ***Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)***

1. Amendments made by the *Health Services Amendment (Local Health Districts and Boards) Act 2011* (commenced 1 July 2011):

Amendments were made to Schedule 5C of the Law to reflect the replacement of Local Health Networks with Local Health Districts.

2. Amendments made by the *Health Legislation Amendment Act 2012* (commenced 21 June 2012):

An amendment was made to s 6A of the *Health Practitioner Regulation (Adoption of National Law) Act 2009* to remove impaired registrants panels from the definition of *adjudication body*.

Amendments to the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)*:

- Inclusion of s 3A which provides that in exercising a function under a NSW provision of the Law public protection is the paramount consideration.
  - Inclusion of s 143A which provides that a mandatory notification made to AHPRA is to be taken as a notification (complaint) for the purposes of Part 8 of the Law and for the purposes of the *Health Care Complaints Act 1993*.
  - Amendments to a range of sections to clarify that a Council may refer a person for psychological counselling in addition to medical and other types of counselling.
  - Amendments to a range of sections to provide that where a committee, panel or Tribunal is required to include a lay person, that person is to be someone who has never been registered as a practitioner or student in the relevant profession.
  - Amendment to s 159 to clarify that an appeal to the Tribunal from a decision by the Council is a hearing de novo.
  - Amendment to s 163 to provide that the Chairperson of the Tribunal may determine in a particular case that the Council is the “appropriate review body”.
  - Amendment to s 163A to provide that a disciplinary order of a Council may be reviewed.
  - Amendment of s 163B to clarify that a practitioner who receives a “reinstatement order” from the Tribunal must still meet the registration requirements of the National Board.
  - A range of minor consequential amendments flowing from the above amendments were also made.
  - Section 41B to include the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council, the Chinese Medicine Council, the Medical Radiation Practice Council and the Occupational Therapy Council in the table of Councils established by that section.
3. Amendments made by the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW) Amendment (Health Professions) Order 2012* (commenced 1 July 2012):

Amendments were made to s 41B to include the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Council of New South Wales, the Chinese Medicine Council of New South Wales, the Medical Radiation Practice Council of New South Wales and the Occupational Therapy Council of New South Wales in the table of Councils established by that section.

Amendments were made to s 165 to include the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Tribunal of New South Wales, the Chinese Medicine Tribunal of New South Wales, the Medical Radiation Practice Tribunal of New South Wales and the Occupational Therapy Tribunal of New South Wales in the table of Tribunals established by that section.

## **APPENDIX 1 - Legislative Changes (Continued)**

### **Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Regulation 2010**

1. Amendments made by the *Statute Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2011* (commenced 8 July 2011):  
An amendment to Clause 24 of a savings and transitional nature.
2. *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Amendment (Savings and Transitional) Regulation 2011* (commenced 22 July 2011):  
An amendment of a savings and transitional nature to ensure that a person who became a member of a State Board of the National Board by virtue of the transitional provisions in the Law did not cease to hold that office due to the expiry of their former term of office as a member of the local Registration Board
3. *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Amendment Regulation 2012*  
An amendment to insert Clause 3A to the Regulation, setting out the membership of the four new Professional Councils established on 1 July 2012 (commenced 3 February 2012).  
A consequential amendment to Clause 4 of the Regulation flowing from the insertion of Clause 3A (commenced 1 July 2012).
4. *Health Practitioner Regulation (New South Wales) Amendment (Health Professional Councils) Regulation 2012* (commenced 1 July 2012):  
Amendments to include Clause 4A and Schedules 1A and 1B to the Regulation to provide for the membership of the Dental, Medical, Nursing and Midwifery, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy and Psychology Councils.

## Appendix 2 - GIPA Statistics 2011/2012

### Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

**Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome\***

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not for profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\* More than one decision can be made in respect of a particular access application. If so, a recording must be made in relation to each such decision. This also applies to Table B.

**Table B: Number of applications by type of application and outcome**

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly personal information applications and partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

\* A *personal information application* is an access application for personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual).

## APPENDIX 2 - GIPA Statistics (Continued)

**Table C: Invalid applications**

Reason for invalidity	No of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (s 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (s 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (s 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

**Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure: matters listed in Schedule 1 to Act**

	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protection of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

\* More than one public interest consideration may apply in relation to a particular access application and, if so, each such consideration is to be recorded (but only once per application). This also applies in relation to Table E.

**Table E: Other public interest considerations against disclosure: matters listed in table to s 14 of Act**

	Number of occasions when application not successful
Responsible and effective government	0
Law enforcement and security	0
Individual rights, judicial processes and natural justice	0
Business interests of agencies and other persons	0
Environment, culture, economy and general matters	0
Secrecy provisions	0
Exempt documents under interstate Freedom of Information legislation	0

## APPENDIX 2 - GIPA Statistics (Continued)

**Table F: Timeliness**

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	0

**Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of review and outcome)**

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under s 93 of Act	0	0	0
Review by ADT	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

\* The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision-maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made by the Information Commissioner.

**Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)**

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see s 54 of the Act)	0



## **Appendix 3 - Members of Tribunals, Panels and Committees 2011 / 2012**

### **Optometry Tribunal**

#### **Chairperson**

Ms Joanne Muller

#### **Deputy Chairperson**

Ms Phillipa Gormly

#### **Professional members**

Dr Isabelle Jalbert

Mr Gavin Bigland

#### **Lay persons**

Mr Christopher Gardiner

### **Assessment Committee**

Mr Peter Moore (*Chairperson*)

Ms Jennifer Long

Ms Rosemary Paynter

Ms Mary Perrett

### **Impaired Registrants Panel**

#### **Registered Medical Practitioner**

Dr Patricia Sue Morey

#### **Professional members**

Mr Constantine Livanos

Ms Kaliope Koutzas

# Glossary

## Adjudication Body

A panel, Tribunal or Court can be declared an adjudication body for the purposes of the Law

## Cancellation

- A Council may recommend the suspension or cancellation of a practitioner's registration if the practitioner does not have sufficient physical and mental capacity to practice the practitioner's profession
- A Council may recommend the suspension or cancellation of a student's registration if the student has an impairment

## Complainant

A person who makes a notification (complaint) to a health complaint entity:

- Health Professional Councils Authority (HPCA)
- Health Care Complaints Commission (HCCC)
- Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)

## Conciliation

The Council may refer a complaint to the HCCC for conciliation, whereby the parties involved can negotiate a resolution

## Caution

A caution is a formal warning intended to act as a deterrent to a practitioner not to repeat conduct. This is a less serious outcome than a reprimand

## Condition

A condition aims to restrict a practitioner's practice in some way, to protect the public

## Notification

A notification (complaint) can be either a voluntary notification or a mandatory notification. A voluntary notification is about behaviour which presents a risk but is not as serious as a mandatory notification

## Notifiable Conduct / Mandatory Reporting

Notifiable conduct includes practising whilst intoxicated, engaging in sexual misconduct, placing the public at risk of substantial harm due to an impairment or a departure from accepted professional standards

## Open Matter

A notification (complaint) remains open until such time as a final outcome/decision has been determined by the Council or other decision-making entity under the Law, such as a Tribunal, Professional Standards Committee, Performance Review Panel or Court. This decision disposes of the matter

## Order

An order is a decision, condition or restriction placed on a practitioners registration or practice

## Professional Misconduct

Unsatisfactory professional conduct of a sufficiently serious nature to justify suspension or cancellation of the practitioner's registration

## Reprimand

A reprimand is a formal rebuke or chastisement for inappropriate and unacceptable conduct and appears on a practitioner's registration

## Stage

This refers to the stage at which a matter has been closed. These include:

- Assessment
- Conduct
- Health
- Performance
- Investigation
- Panel (IRP, PRP, PSC)
- Tribunal
- Appeal/Court

## Stream

Health: a practitioner who may have a physical or mental impairment, disability, condition or disorder that detrimentally affects, or is likely to detrimentally affect their capacity to practise their profession

Conduct: behaviour by a practitioner that may be categorised as professional misconduct or unsatisfactory professional conduct

Performance: professional performance that is considered unsatisfactory because it is below the standard reasonably expected of a practitioner of an equivalent level of training or experience

## Supervision

Supervision is the performing of one's duties or practice under the supervision of another similarly qualified practitioner

## Unsatisfactory Professional Conduct

Conduct which is significantly below reasonable standards, in contravention of the Law or regulations or conditions of registration, failure to comply with order/decision of Committee or Tribunal by:

- accepting benefit for referral or recommendation to health provider or health product,
- engaging in over servicing,
- failure to disclose pecuniary interest or offering a benefit for referral or recommendation
- supervision of assistants, or
- other unethical or improper behaviour

## Abbreviations

### AABS

Australian Accounting Standards Board

### AHPRA

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency

### ATO

Australian Taxation Office

### AustLII

Australasian Legal Information Institute

### CAP

Council appointed practitioner

### CAPS

Coaching and Performance System

### CPI

Consumer Price Index

### DP

Director of Proceedings

### DPP

Director of Public Prosecutions

### EEO

Equal Employment Opportunity

### FTE

Full-time Equivalent

### GIPA Act

Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

### GST

Goods and Services Tax

### HAC

Health Administration Corporation

### HCCC

Health Care Complaints Commission

### HPCA

Health Professional Councils Authority

### IAB

Internal Audit Bureau

### IRP

Impaired Registrants Panel

### MOH

Ministry of Health

### NB

National Board

### NRAS

National Registration and Accreditation Scheme

### PA

Performance Assessment

### PRP

Performance Review Panel

### The Law

Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)  
No 86a

### TRIM

Total Records Information Management

### WRAPP

Waste Reduction and Purchasing Policy







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