

Dear Member,

The Victorian Minister for Health has announced the establishment of the Health Innovation and Reform Council (HIRC).

The Council will investigate and provide advice in areas including:

- International advances in health innovation and their applicability for Victorian health services
- Improving the quality and safety of care provided by the public health sector
- Informing the efficient and effective provision of clinical services, quality and management to ensure best practice healthcare throughout Victoria's public health sector
- Providing advice on and informing the implementation of the Victorian Health Priorities Framework 2012-2022 and the state's health planning into the future

The HIRC will be chaired by the Hon. Rob Knowles AO and will include:

- Mr Trevor Carr - CEO, VHA
- Dr Michael Montalto - Medical Director, Hospital in the Home Unit, Epworth HealthCare
- Assoc. Prof. Jillian Sewell AM - consultant paediatrician and Assoc. Director Clinical Services, Royal Children's Hospital
- Ms Bronte Jane Adams - Principal, Dandolo Partners
- Mr Gary Speck - Orthopaedic surgeon and National Chairman of the Australian Society of Orthopaedic Surgeons
- Ms Therese Tierney - CEO, Orbost Regional Health

The Council will consult with health professionals, industry groups and the community to formulate its advice to the Minister. The HIRC will also, through the Secretary, advise the new Commission for Hospital Improvement (to be established once the Council is operational). The Commission will be a section of the Department of Health and will focus on implementing key improvement initiatives. Early work of the HIRC will consider re-admission rates to Victoria's hospitals, and opportunities in telemedicine to improve access to service provision.

Kind regards,



Trevor Carr
Chief Executive