

Part 1.1: Department Overview



The Department of Health is a Department of State. In 2016-17 we operated under the *Public Service Act 1999* and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

Our Vision

Better health and wellbeing for all Australians, now and for future generations.

Our Purpose

Lead and shape Australia's health and aged care system and sporting outcomes through evidence-based policy, well targeted programs, and best practice regulation.

Our Strategic Priorities

Better health and ageing outcomes and reduced inequality through:

- an integrated approach that balances prevention, primary, secondary and tertiary care;
- promoting greater engagement of individuals in their health and healthcare; and
- enabling access for people with cultural and diverse backgrounds including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people in rural and remote areas and people experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.

Affordable, accessible, efficient, and high quality health and aged care system through:

- partnering and collaborating with others to deliver health and aged care programs;
- better, more cost-effective care through research, innovation and technology; and
- regulation that protects the health and safety of the community, while minimising unnecessary compliance burdens.

Better sport outcomes through:

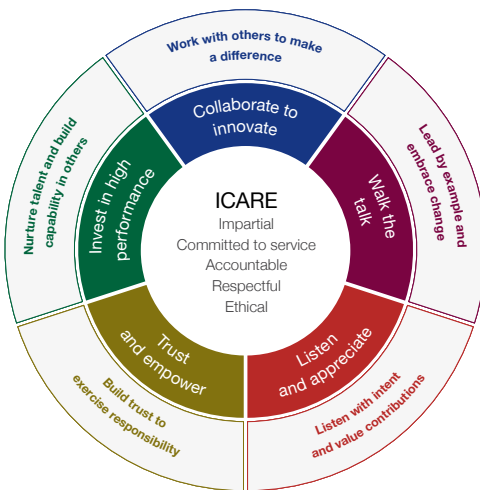
- boosting participation opportunities for all Australians;
- optimising international performance; and
- safeguarding integrity in sport.

Our capabilities

- We build leadership at all levels.
- We think strategically and make evidence-based choices.
- We strengthen our key relationships.
- We embed innovation in our work.
- We manage cost and invest in long term sustainability.

Our values and behaviours

The Department of Health adheres to the APS ICARE principles, which are central to *Our Behaviours in Action*. The Department has continued to champion *Our Behaviours in Action* through 2016-17, with a particular emphasis on leadership modelling these behaviours.



Portfolio structure

In 2016-17, the Health Portfolio consisted of:

- the Department of Health (refer *Part 1.3: Structure Chart* on p. 26);
- 17 portfolio entities (refer *Part 1.6: Portfolio Entity-Specific Outcomes* on p. 31); and
- five statutory office holders:
 - Aged Care Complaints Commissioner
 - Aged Care Pricing Commissioner
 - Gene Technology Regulator
 - Director, National Industrial Chemicals Notification Assessment Scheme
 - National Health Funding Pool Administrator.

Ministerial changes

On 24 January 2017, the Hon Greg Hunt MP was sworn in as the Minister for Health and Minister for Sport; the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP as the Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health; and the Hon Dr David Gillespie MP as Assistant Minister for Health (for further information refer *Part 1.4: Ministerial Responsibilities* on p. 29).

Machinery of Government changes

There were no Machinery of Government changes that impacted the Department of Health during 2016-17.