

Board update

March 2018

At its March 2018 meeting, the Board discussed the selection of the new HCA Chief Executive (CE), and also agreed on due diligence checks for the new CE and Directors. Routine governance business such as the HCA budget and risk management were discussed, and Directors endorsed several individual HCA membership applications.

Two key items from the Acting Chief Executive's (CE) Report were tabled and discussed in detail. They were:

- The Independent Commissioner Against Corruption (ICAC) investigation report on the Oaken Older Persons Mental Health Facility. This report - [Oakden: A Shameful Chapter in South Australia's History](#) - by the Hon Bruce Lander QC highlights systemic failings in processes and oversight that allowed the events at the Oakden Facility to occur for more than a decade largely without intervention.

HCA has published a [Summary on the Oakden Report](#), and will continue to advocate and contribute to policy-making at the health system level, to ensure that all health consumers receive quality, safe, consumer-centred care. HCA will maintain its focus on what consumers want - rather than being profiled in the media. Families of those who lived at Oakden want this never to happen again, and for those responsible for the uncaring, unkind and disgraceful treatment never to work again. This has still not been achieved.

- An update on the [HCA 2018 Election Platform](#). The Acting CE and Board Directors have met with representatives of five political parties to date, and a launch of the Platform has involved distribution to political parties; to key stakeholders in the health, ageing, multicultural, social services, health research, and Aboriginal health sectors; and to individual / organisational HCA members. The Platform has also been featured in digital media, including the weekly eNews. More than 350 people have seen the HCA Election Platform post on their Facebook newsfeed; over 720 people saw the post in their Twitter newsfeed; and there have been more than 500 hits on the HCA website article.

A summary of key points from the meetings with political representatives will be published in due course.

Post-election, HCA will again seek meetings with relevant parliamentarians to continue to advocate for issues highlighted in our platform and for consumers to always be at the centre of health.