



**Australian Government**  
**Organ and Tissue Authority**

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## **Organ and Tissue Authority Board**

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### **Meeting No 6, 18 September 2018**

#### **Communiqué**

The Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA) Board (the Board) met in Canberra on Tuesday, 18 September 2018.

The Board reviewed progress by the OTA since the last meeting (26 June 2018), including the year-to-date organ donation and transplantation outcomes, project status and risk reporting; and considered a range of operational, financial and compliance matters.

The Board invited the Chair of the OTA Audit Committee, Mr Peter Hoefler, to report on the outcomes from the Audit Committee meeting held the previous day. The main item of business at the meeting was the endorsement of the OTA's 2017-18 Financial Statements and Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (PGPA) Framework Compliance Reporting.

The Board noted the range of activities undertaken by the OTA, state and territory DonateLife Agencies, and Community Awareness Grant recipients during DonateLife Week 2018 from 29 July to 5 August 2018. The aim of the campaign was to promote awareness of organ and tissue donation, increase registrations and encourage people to talk to their family about donation. The Board agreed to review the evaluation of DonateLife Week at the next meeting.

The Board reviewed the development of an Australian Organ Donor Register (AODR) Strategy to inform the optimisation of donor registrations and discussion with friends and family, in conjunction with the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services. The Strategy includes the history of the AODR, efforts to increase registration to date and the current state of the AODR, including potential registration channels. The Board reiterated their commitment to further increasing registrations on the national register noting that data indicates the positive impact of registration on consent rates.

The Board noted the plan to review the DonateLife Family Support Services and resources during 2019, acknowledging the importance of ensuring the needs of families of organ and tissue donors before, during and after donation are met.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Tuesday, 11 December 2018.

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