



Australian Government
Organ and Tissue Authority

Organ and Tissue Authority Board

Meeting No 7, 11 December 2018

Communiqué

The Organ and Tissue Authority (OTA) Board (the Board) met on Tuesday, 11 December 2018 at the OTA's new premises, Level 3, 14 Childers Street, Canberra.

The Board reviewed progress by the OTA since the last meeting (18 September 2018). The update included the year-to-date organ donation and transplantation outcomes and projected outcomes for 2018; a report on the status of current projects; and a report on the OTA's risk management process and risk profile.

The Board reviewed the performance reporting requirements under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* which aim to provide a clear line of sight between what an agency plans to achieve and what is actually delivered. The Board discussed the strategic direction, priorities and performance measures for 2019-20 to inform the OTA's input to the Health Portfolio Budget Statements as a first step in the annual reporting cycle. The Board supported the ongoing strategic focus on best practice in hospitals to improve donor identification and provide high quality care and support for donor families so they can make an informed and enduring decision about donation. Noting the positive impact of registration on consent rates, the Board also reiterated their commitment to increasing registrations on the Australian Organ Donor Register and discussed channels to do this.

The Board reviewed the outcomes of DonateLife Week 2018 held in August. During DonateLife Week, Australians were encouraged to register on the Australian Organ Donor Register using the online registration form at www.donatelife.gov.au and to discuss donation with family and friends. These messages were delivered through social media, traditional media, national partnerships and community events. The campaign featured strongly across print, broadcast and online media.

The Board noted that the Community Awareness Grants round for 2018-19 will commence early in the New Year. The program is a competitive funding round which assists organisations with projects or activities that contribute to raising awareness of organ and tissue donation.

At the June 2018 meeting, the Board reviewed the OTA's committee structure and agreed the establishment of a new committee, comprising key community stakeholders, to provide a community perspective on national communications and community engagement activities as part of the national program. The Board reviewed the terms of reference for the Community Engagement Group which will be established in early 2019.

The Board noted the development and progress of a mutually agreed Data Governance Framework by the OTA, jurisdictions and other stakeholders for the collective responsibility of managing data assets across the Australian donation and transplant sector. The framework aims to enhance the gathering and analysis of data on processes and outcomes to drive clinical practice improvement.

The next meeting of the Board will be held via teleconference in January 2019 to discuss the 2018 donation and transplantation outcomes. The first face-to-face meeting for 2019 will be held on Tuesday, 2 April.
