

ANNUAL REPORT 2014 - 15



OSTEOPATHY COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*Osteopathy Council
of New South Wales*

Over the past year, the Osteopathy Council has successfully promoted and enhanced the good and respected reputation of the profession in NSW. The Council has raised, attended to and brought to completion, several ongoing matters.

Having previously developed and published *Guidelines on the Examination and Treatment of Genitalia, Sensitive Areas and Internal Techniques*, the Council identified a further gap in the regulatory and policy space and published a *Position Statement on the Scope of Practice in Osteopathy*. This paper had been deemed necessary as the Council sought to further protect the public from treatment purportedly offered under the context of osteopathic care, by raising awareness amongst NSW registered osteopaths and the public as well as members of academia and adjudication bodies.

With a view to reducing the nature and range of complaints about the performance and conduct of new graduates, the President and Deputy President gave a presentation to 4th and 5th year students at Southern Cross University, Lismore.

The Council has also embarked on a campaign to revitalise its stand-by panel, from which, practitioners are drawn to serve on Tribunal hearings, committees and panels. This has laid the groundwork for the efficient and effective management of future complaints.

The Council would like to thank its executive staff, Michael Jaques and Christine Gursen, for their support and advice throughout the year.

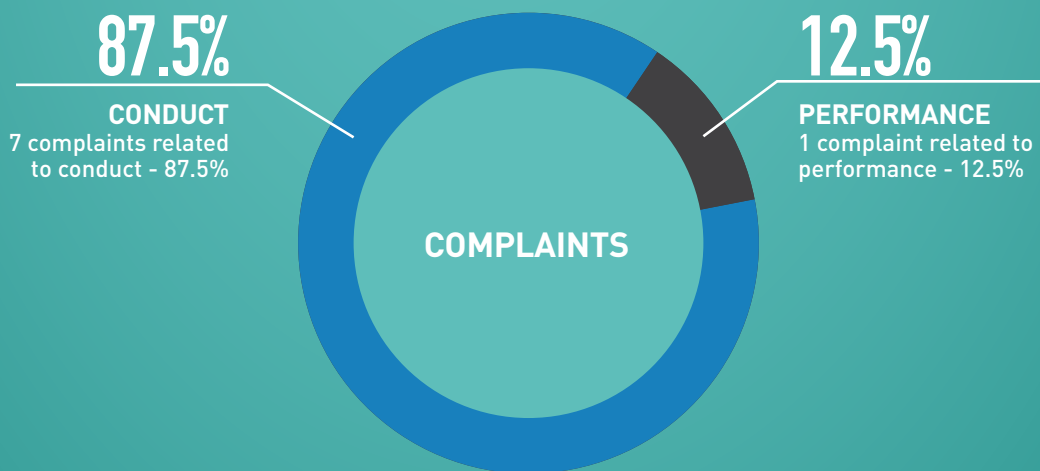
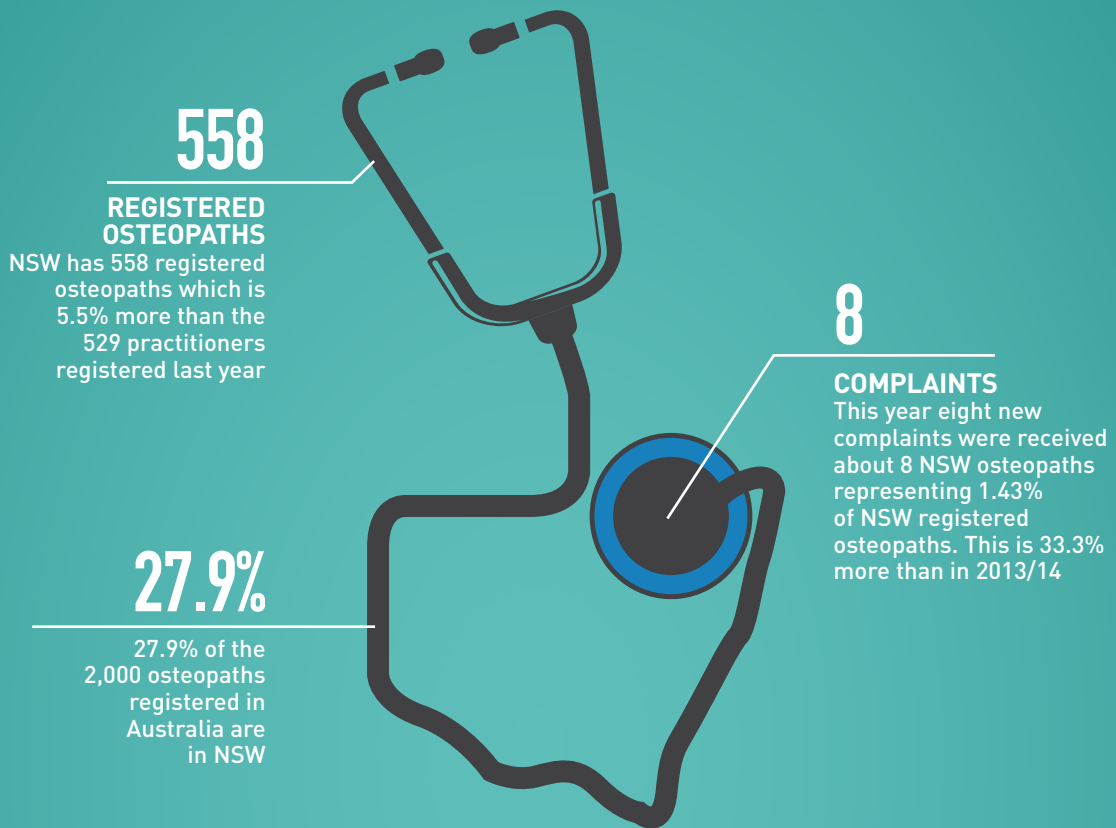
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anne Cooper', with a checkmark at the end.

(Ms) Anne Cooper

President
Osteopathy Council of NSW

REGULATION OF OSTEOPATHS IN NSW IN 2014/15

YEAR IN SUMMARY



Regulation of Osteopaths in NSW in 2014/15

Year in summary

NSW has 558 registered osteopaths which is 5.5% more than the 529 practitioners registered last year and 27.9% of the 2,000 osteopaths registered to practise Australia wide.

This year eight new complaints were received about eight NSW osteopaths representing 1.43% of NSW registered osteopaths. This is 33.3% more than the six complaints received about NSW registered osteopaths in 2013/14.

Complaints received about NSW osteopaths included:

- 7 related to conduct conduct – 87.5%
- 1 related to performance – 12.5%
- No complaints received related to health/impairment.

No mandatory notifications were received.

Four complaints were received from patients, one was a self report and the remaining three were from other sources including employer and other agency or individual.

Complaints management included:

- 4 Tribunal hearings in train
- 1 s150 hearing
- 2 counselling – one conduct and one performance
- 2 interviews.

Six complaints were closed during the year with outcomes including:

- 1 referred to another body
- 2 required no further action after assessment
- 1 discontinued
- 2 counselling.

Council Membership

Section 41E of the Law prescribes that there are four members of the Osteopathy Council appointed by the Governor.

Members who are registered osteopathy practitioners:

- Ms Anne Cooper RN, DO, M Med Hum - President
- Mr Stiofan Mac Suibhne BSc (Hons), Osteo PG, CertEd, PGDip, HSc - Deputy President
- Mr Stuart Hammond BAppSci (Osteo), MO

Community member:

- Ms Soraya Mir BSc (Hons), LLB, LLM, Grad Dip Corp Govn

During the year no new members were appointed and no members retired.

Attendance at Council Meetings

The Osteopathy Council met on 11 occasions. Attendance at the meetings was as follows:

Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Eligible to Attend
Ms Anne Cooper	10	11
Mr Stiofan Mac Suibhne	7	11
Mr Stuart Hammond	10	11
Ms Soraya Mir	11	11

Executive Officer

The Osteopathy Council is supported by Mr Michael Jaques, Executive Officer and Christine Gursen, Assistant Executive Officer, employed by the HPCA.

Committees of Council

Section 41F of the Law provides that the Council may establish committees to assist it with the exercise of its functions. Members of committees need not be Council members. The Osteopathy Council did not appoint any committees during the reporting period.

Regulatory Committees and Panels

Part 8 of the Law prescribes the committees and panels that support the Council in undertaking its regulatory activities. They include Assessment Committees, Impaired Registrants Panels and Performance Review Panels.

The Osteopathy Council did not establish any of these bodies during the reporting period.

Meetings and Conferences

The Osteopathy Council was represented at the following meetings and conferences during the reporting period.

Name	Attendance
Council Presidents' Forum – bi-monthly meetings	Ms Anne Cooper
Presentations to 4th and 5th year students at Southern Cross University	Ms Anne Cooper Mr Stiofan Mac Suibhne
NSW Forum for Independent Review of NRAS	Mr Stiofan Mac Suibhne
NRAS Combined Meeting	Mr Stiofan Mac Suibhne

Overseas Travel

There was no overseas travel during the reporting period.

Council Communications

The Osteopathy Council website is the principal medium used for communicating information to osteopaths, osteopathy students and the community. The website is updated regularly and includes links to other key bodies in the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme.

The Osteopathy Council also regularly distributes electronic newsletters to Osteopaths with a principal place of practice in NSW. Further information is available on the Council's website www.osteopathyCouncil.nsw.gov.au.

Remuneration

Remuneration for members of the Council is as follows:

President	\$2,336 per annum
Members	\$1,752 per annum

In addition, Council members receive sitting fees of \$436 per day and \$218 per half day for the conduct of Council Inquiries and \$256 per day and \$128 per half day for participating in counselling sessions and other regulatory activities if held on a day other than the monthly Council meeting. Council members are reimbursed for expenses incurred when travelling on official business at Council direction.

Members of panels and tribunals also receive remuneration and reimbursement of expenses.

Financial Management

The Osteopathy Council's accounts performance as reported in the Financial Statements is as follows.

Accounts Performance 2014/15	\$
Revenue	181,290
Operating expenditure	171,857
Gain/(loss) on disposal	809
Net result	10,242
Net cash reserves (cash and cash equivalents minus current liabilities)	126,661

* Included in the net cash reserves is Education and Research bank account balance of: \$227

The Osteopathy Council's budget for the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 is as follows.

Budget 2015/16	\$
Operating expenditure	203,830
Revenue	181,225
Net result	(22,605)

Full financial statements are presented in Part 3 of this report 'Financial Statements for NSW Health Professional Councils'.