



**Government of South Australia**

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SAAS Volunteer  
Health Advisory Council

# SAAS Volunteer Health Advisory Council

## 2016-17 Annual Report

SAAS Volunteer Health Advisory Council

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To:

Hon. Peter Malinauskas M.L.C

Minister for Health

Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse

This annual report is presented to Parliament to meet the statutory reporting requirements of *the Health Care Act 2008 (SA)* and meets the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

This report is verified to be accurate for the purposes of annual reporting to the Parliament of South Australia.

Submitted on behalf of the SAAS Volunteer Health Advisory Council (SAASVHAC) by:

**Greg Joseph** ASM OAM

**Presiding Member**

**SAAS Volunteer Health Advisory Council**

29 September 2017

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Signature

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Date

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## **Section A: Reporting required under the *Public Sector Act 2009*, the *Public Sector Regulations 2010* and the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987***

### **Agency purpose or role**

SAASVHAC's role is to:

- Provide advice and advocate on the needs, priorities and issues concerning volunteers within SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) in its provision of ambulance service to country South Australia.
- Represent the interests and needs of volunteers within SAAS across the whole of country South Australia.
- Provide advice to the Minister and SAAS on matters affecting, or that may affect the volunteer sector within SAAS.
- Provide advice on any strategic issue that may have an impact on recruitment or retention of SAAS volunteers.

### **Objectives**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

### **Key strategies and their relationship to SA Government objectives**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

### **Agency programs and initiatives and their effectiveness and efficiency**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

### **Legislation administered by the agency**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

### **Organisation of the agency**

SAASVHAC is an unincorporated body which provides advice to the Minister for Health via the Chief Executive - SA Health and the Chief Executive Officer - SAAS, on behalf of SAAS volunteers.

**Other agencies related to this agency (within the Minister’s area/s of responsibility)**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

**Employment opportunity programs**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

**Agency performance management and development systems**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

**Occupational health, safety and rehabilitation programs of the agency and their effectiveness**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

**Fraud detected in the agency**

Any issues relating to fraud for SAASVHAC and SAAS volunteers are managed by SAAS.

**Strategies implemented to control and prevent fraud**

Nil. SAASVHAC members and SAAS volunteers abide by any relevant SAAS strategies to control and prevent fraud.

Data for the past five years in for SAAS is available at:

<https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/6d184c27-c4dc-4138-9306-b58367817eac>

**Whistle-blowers’ disclosure**

Number of occasions on which public interest information has been disclosed to a responsible officer of the agency under the <i>Whistle-blowers’ Protection Act 1993</i>	0
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Data for the past five years is available at:

[data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/sa-ambulance-service-volunteer-health-advisory-council](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/sa-ambulance-service-volunteer-health-advisory-council)

## **Executive employment in the agency**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

Data for the past five years is available at:

[data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/sa-ambulance-service-volunteer-health-advisory-council](https://data.sa.gov.au/data/dataset/sa-ambulance-service-volunteer-health-advisory-council)

## **Consultants**

As an advisory council, SAASVHAC do not engage external consultants, any consultants engaged to assist either SAAS or the SAAS volunteer sector are engaged by SAAS.

## **Financial performance of the agency**

Throughout the year SAASVHAC has provided strategic advice to SAAS in relation to expenditure from the Country Capital Reserve Fund and Country Operating Reserve Fund.

## **Other financial information**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

## **Other information requested by the Minister(s) or other significant issues affecting the agency or reporting pertaining to independent functions**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.

## Section B: Reporting required under any other act or regulation

### Name and date of act or regulation

Section 17 of the *Health Care Act 2008*

During 2016-17 SAASVHAC has continued to actively consult with their members (1577 volunteers) and work closely with SAAS to ensure that the needs and priorities of the SAAS volunteer sector are considered in the provision of ambulance services to country South Australia.

During 2016-17 SAASVHAC have had involvement in, and have provided advice on a range of SAAS initiatives to enhance the sustainability of the volunteer sector within South Australia. SAASVHAC have provided advice to SAAS on a number of volunteer focused projects including:

- Improving communication with volunteers
- Improving technology at volunteer stations
- Implementing job descriptions for volunteer leadership positions and associated guiding principles for leaders to adhere to
- Improving volunteer recruitment and selection processes.

SAASVHAC has also contributed to a SAAS review of volunteer education systems including establishing new volunteer roles, service delivery mechanisms and training systems.

Volunteer reward and recognition is an issue that SAASVHAC have continued to advocate for during 2016-17. This has resulted in SAAS implementing volunteer service award badges and systems to recognise and acknowledge the contribution of volunteers to both SAAS and their communities.

In addition to improve SAASVHAC's role in consulting and advocating on behalf of the volunteer sector a Volunteer Youth Advisory Committee was established to enable volunteers aged up to 35 years to have a direct link into their SAASVHAC representative and promote their interests and concerns to both SAAS and SAASVHAC.

SAASVHAC also advocated to ensure that recent changes to Ambulance Cover conditions did not unduly disadvantage SAAS volunteers.

### Reporting required under the *Carers' Recognition Act 2005*

The *Carers' Recognition Act* is deemed applicable for the following: Department for Communities and Social Inclusion, Department for Education and Child Development, Department for Health and Ageing, Department of State Development, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, South Australia Police and TAFE SA.

*Section 7: Compliance or non-compliance with section 6 of the Carers Recognition Act 2005 and (b) if a person or body provides relevant services under a contract with the organisation (other than a contract of employment), that person's or body's compliance or non-compliance with section 6.*

Not applicable.

## **Section C: Reporting of public complaints as requested by the Ombudsman**

### **Summary of complaints by subject**

All complaints in relation to SAASVHAC and SAAS volunteers are managed within the SAAS complaints policies and procedures.

### **Complaint outcomes**

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.



## **Appendix: Audited financial statements 2016-17**

As the Health Advisory Council is unincorporated, its assets and liabilities are included in the financial reports of SAAS.

SAASVHAC consists of volunteers who undertake an advisory and advocacy role on behalf of all SAAS volunteers.