

# AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

Attention: Review Secretary  
PGPA Act Review  
Department of Finance  
1 Canberra Avenue  
FORREST ACT 2603

Dear Review Secretary

Thank you for your letter of 9 October 2017 to Adjunct Professor Debora Picone AM, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission), inviting the Commission to put forward a submission to the independent review of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA) Act.

The Commission believes that the PGPA Act is achieving its objective of establishing high standards and a coherent system for governance, performance and accountability for Commonwealth entities. By replacing the heavily prescribed requirements under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997* with a principle-based approach, the PGPA Act allows the Commission to meet its compliance obligations more efficiently.

The Commission also embraces the performance reporting requirements under the PGPA Act. However, the current one-size-fits-all reporting requirements compel the Commission, as a small agency, to channel a significant portion of its resource from meeting its outcomes to working on its performance information instead. Giving consideration to small agencies' resource constraints could assist the Commission to meet its reporting requirements more efficiently.

I hope this is useful for the review. Please contact me at [REDACTED] if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]  
Mike Wallace  
Chief Operating Officer

5 November 2017