



Secretary

Department of Health and Human Services

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Hon Jill Hennessy MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services
Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street
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Dear Minister

2016-17 Ministerial Statements of Expectations: regulatory areas within the health portfolio

Thank you for providing me with your Ministerial Statement of Expectations letters for the department's nine regulatory areas within your health portfolio, for the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017. I am pleased to provide you with the attached department action plans in response to your Ministerial Statements that outline actions the department will undertake to give effect to your expectations.

Common themes in the department's action plans include engaging with industry, unions and local government to effectively communicate Victorian Government initiatives, such as smoking bans in outdoor dining areas and kilojoule labelling laws, improving regulatory areas' risk management practices, and reducing unnecessary regulatory burden for regulated organisations.

Your Ministerial Statements and the department's action plans will form part of relevant regulatory areas' work plans and will also be published on the department's website. The department's progress in undertaking the actions outlined in the action plans will be publically reported on shortly after the conclusion of the 2016-17 financial year.

I look forward to working with you to continue to further improve the performance of the department's regulators.

Yours sincerely


Kym Peake
Secretary
22/8/2016

Encl. (9) 2016-17 Ministerial Statements of Expectations: health portfolio regulator action plans

Ministerial Statement of Expectations: regulator action plan 2016-17

Water Program

The table below details the Department of Health and Human Services' Water Program's plan to meet the performance improvement expectations outlined in the Water Program's Ministerial Statement of Expectations 2016-17.

| Performance Improvement | Actions | Performance Targets |
|---|---|---|
| <p>Improving communication with water agencies and compliance with the <i>Safe Drinking Water Act 2003</i> ('the Act') by providing compliance reports to water agencies. The Water Program will provide periodic reports to water agencies containing information and analysis about breaches in relation to the Act, primarily relating to water quality. One of the aims of the reports will be to improve industry compliance with the Act.</p> | <p>Provide a quarterly compliance report to all water agencies.</p> | <p>Generate and provide a quarterly report, commencing quarter 1 2016-17, to be published by the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st quarter: 10 October 2016 • 2nd quarter: 9 January 2017 • 3rd quarter: 10 April 2017 • 4th quarter: 10 July 2017. |
| <p>Improving risk management practices and transparency by developing and implementing a risk-based compliance strategy in relation to safe drinking water. The strategy will articulate the Program's approach to enforcing the safe drinking water regulations, and will clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Water Program and water agencies. The strategy will be published on the Water Program's website.</p> | <p>Develop, implement and publish a compliance strategy in relation to safe drinking water.</p> | <p>Compliance strategy to be publically available by June 30 2017.</p> |
| <p>Reducing regulatory burden on water agencies and public swimming pools and spas, many of whom are small businesses. This will be achieved through ensuring that the Water Program's guidance in relation to complying with regulations is readily available and easily accessible, as a web based resource.</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work in partnership with Aquatic Recreation Victoria to update the <i>Pool Operator's Handbook</i> to provide concise regulatory guidance. 2. Update web-based resources. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Complete review and update by 30 June 2017. 2. Complete review and update by 1 January 2017. |