

Division:	Fellowship Engagement	Ref. No.	REG-3056
Department:	Policy and Advocacy		
Title:	Health Policy and Advocacy Committee Terms of Reference		

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy outlines the Terms of Reference for the Health Policy and Advocacy Committee.

The Health Policy and Advocacy Committee provides strategic support on national or binational advocacy issues, for the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons through the President and Vice President's offices, and Council as they relate to policy and advocacy. The Committee is responsible for issues relating to sustainability in healthcare, and environmental sustainability in surgical practice. It is acknowledged that the Aotearoa New Zealand National Committee and State and Territory Committees have a responsibility for local advocacy on matters that are Aotearoa New Zealand, State or Territory specific.

2. KEYWORDS

Policy, Advocacy, Government and Stakeholder Relations, Submissions, Hearings, Working Parties

3. BODY OF POLICY

3.1. Objectives

The objectives of the Health Policy and Advocacy Committee are:

- 3.1.1. To initiate and provide ongoing strategic support for policy and advocacy matters relating to surgery.
- 3.1.2. To be responsible for issues relating to sustainability in healthcare, and environmental sustainability in surgical practice.
- 3.1.3. To make recommendations to relevant college committees the Vice President, the President and Council regarding policy and advocacy issues.
- 3.1.4. To ensure a quick turnaround of time critical matters to government and other relevant external stakeholders.
- 3.1.5. To provide support and advice to and in collaboration with the Communication Team on time critical media releases, articles, or interviews.
- 3.1.6. To engage when necessary and respect the responsibility for advocacy of our immediate internal professional stakeholders being our surgical specialty societies and the Australian State and Territory committees and Aotearoa New Zealand National Committee, as well as other relevant external stakeholders regarding policy and advocacy matters relating to surgery.

3.2. Duties and Responsibilities

- 3.2.1. To provide ongoing strategic support for policy and advocacy matters relating to surgery.
- 3.2.2. To oversee relevant government public consultations.
- 3.2.3. The Health Policy and Advocacy Committee Chair will accompany the President to relevant ministerial, departmental, and other stakeholder meetings in for example Canberra in order to provide support and advice.
- 3.2.4. To oversee and draft relevant external stakeholder submissions and their relevant signatories, as well as help prepare and represent for hearings on behalf of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

REGULATION

ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Division: Fellowship

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