



COO Committee Communique

Date: 2 July 2025

The COO Committee met today at the Department of Veterans' Affairs. Below is a summary of the matters discussed.

Procurement and Panel Arrangements

The Committee acknowledged the important work of the Profession and extended their appreciation for the achievements to date.

The Joint Heads of Profession led a discussion on how the Australian Government's use of mandatory panels achieves cost savings, transparency, quality, efficiency, and effectiveness in procurement processes. Leveraging ICT systems as a means to enhance panel engagements through improved data management, reporting, contract insights, and procurement transparency was also discussed.

Progressing Innovative Hiring Practices

The Committee acknowledged the progress made on initiatives that enhance APS recruitment practices and discussed potential next steps, including the roll out of project-managed recruitment and guidance on the use of AI in recruitment processes.

Constraints associated with Remote Work Overseas by APS Employees

The Committee noted constraints associated with remote work overseas by APS employees, related responsibilities, and the offer for agencies to contact Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for assistance.

Digital ID – Increasing Commonwealth adoption

The Committee discussed work underway to adopt Digital ID across Commonwealth agencies and to consider data management and retention practices across government services.

Psychosocial Hazards

The Committee received the advanced copy of the Psychosocial Hazards Playbook and will provide feedback to the Project Team.

The Committee received a number of recommendations to assist the APS in the implementation of psychosocial hazard controls at the team, organisation and public sector level that are 'reasonably practicable,' in an operating context.

First Nations Partnership Playbook

The Committee noted the release of the First Nations Partnership Playbook, planned engagements and agreed to link the Playbook on their respective agency websites and promote its use within their agencies.

Mandatory Minimum Indigenous Participation Requirements (MMR) Compliance Reporting

The Committee noted the outcomes of the MMR compliance reports and continued to focus on improvements to reporting compliance.

Next Meetings

The next COO Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13 August 2025.