Communique – Interim Pharmacy Roundtable (IPR) Meeting held 3 March 2021

The Interim Pharmacy Roundtable (IPR) held its tenth meeting on 3 March 2021 via videoconference.

The IPR acknowledged and endorsed the recommencement of the new online Community Pharmacy Compliance Survey (CPCS) rollout starting in March 2021. The CPCS tool has been redesigned as an online survey to help minimise transmission risks on pharmacies associated with the Covid-19 health pandemic. The CPCS aims to establish a baseline review of pharmacy compliance with medicines regulations to inform the development of a strategy and framework for the ongoing monitoring and regular reporting of pharmacies' and pharmacist' compliance with applicable legislation. The survey will address, in part, the Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee Recommendation 10 to improve transparency regarding the compliance of pharmacists with medicines regulations. Further, the CPCS tool has been developed to ensure it enables proactive educative insight into the upcoming medicines and poisons legislation, due to commence later in 2021.

The IPR were provided an update on the new ICT 'fit-for-purpose' solution regarding pharmacy ownership notifications. The Pharmacy Business Ownership Administration system (PBOAS) is now nearing finalisation and will be ready for use by all stakeholders in May. This means that notifications under the *Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2001*, will be online, making regulatory processes simpler and easier to navigate. This new notification system for pharmacy ownership is in response to the Queensland Audit Office recommendations. All stakeholders will receive information about the impending launch in due course.

The IPR were also provided with an update on the establishment of the new Covid-19 Vaccination Command Centre (VCC). The VCC have been set up to oversee the rollout of the vaccine, guided by the Covid-19 vaccine National roll-out strategy.

The next IPR meeting will be held at the end of April, after which it is anticipated that a quarterly meeting schedule will be implemented.