

**phn**  
GIPPSLAND

An Australian Government Initiative

Who we are,  
what we do.



# Our vision is a measurably healthier Gippsland.

From 1 July 2015, the Federal Government made further commitments towards achieving an organised primary healthcare system through the establishment of 31 new Primary Health Networks (PHNs) across Australia.

Gippsland PHN aims to ensure Gippsland's health system is effective and efficient for patients so that we can achieve better care, better health and better value.

The key objectives of Gippsland PHN are to;

- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of medical services for patients, particularly those at risk of poor health outcomes.
- Improve coordination of care to ensure patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.
- Lower prevalence of national and locally prioritised conditions.
- Increase efficiency and effectiveness of medical services and other primary health services.

## Our Region

The Gippsland PHN region covers the six Gippsland Local Government Areas; South Gippsland, Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Latrobe City, Wellington and East Gippsland Shires.

Gippsland PHN offices are located in Wonthaggi, Moe and Bairnsdale.



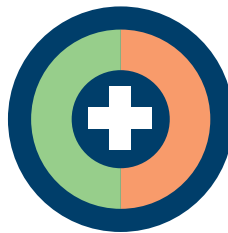
# Our Core Functions

Our role is to commission services in-line with evidence we gather through our health planning function. We focus on supporting general practice and other health professionals through education, training, and innovations in the systems our health professionals need and use.



## *Health Planning*

Gippsland PHN works with organisations, health professionals and available data to analyse Gippsland's population health profile to then determine the priority areas of health. The health priorities are then focused on through planned initiatives and programs to improve health of Gippslanders in these areas.



## *Practice Support*

Gippsland PHN provides support to general practices and other health professionals in Gippsland to ensure they continue to deliver a quality service to their patients. Continuing professional development education and events are a key focus of practice support.



## *Commissioning*

Through an open and contestable process, Gippsland PHN purchases local services to deliver care to the community that is in-line with the key health priority areas of Gippsland.



## *System Integration*

A key focus for Gippsland PHN is making the health system in Gippsland work in a more organised and efficient way. System integration is about identifying and supporting improvements and innovations such as the My Health Record, data extraction from general practice and developing health pathways.

# Our Principles

*A long term, whole-system perspective  
Consumer self-determination and empowerment  
Collaborative local leadership  
Equitable access  
Performance, efficiency and value  
Leading innovation and evidence-based practice*

We are enabled by



Technology



Financial



People



Data



Governance

# Health Priorities

National and local health priorities underpin the focus of Gippsland PHN.

**National health priorities** have been confirmed as mental health, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health, population health, health workforce, eHealth and aged care.

**Our local priorities identified are:**

## 1. Supporting people...



### Children (0-14 years)

17% of children have speech or language problems when they start school



### People with disabilities

8.8% of 16-64 year olds receive the disability support pension



### Indigenous people

Aboriginal people are 20 times more likely to be hospitalised for renal dialysis compared to non-Aboriginal people



### People with social and financial worries

11% of families have a low income or are welfare dependent



### People 60 years or over

30% more people 60 years or over in Gippsland by 2026 - from 74,205 to 96,666 people



### Young people (12-25)

Gippsland has double the prescribing rate of ADHD medications for children 17 years or under compared to Victoria

## 2. Main health issues...



### Alcohol and other drugs

People in Gippsland are more than twice as likely to die from alcohol related causes compared to Victoria



### Cancer

Cancer is the top cause of death in Gippsland



### Heart related issues

28% of adults in Gippsland have high blood pressure



### Ongoing lung related issues

Medical prescribing rates for ongoing lung related issues are high in Gippsland



### Diabetes

Diabetes complications cause 22% of avoidable hospital admissions



### Immunisation

92% of 1 year olds are fully immunised – the target is 95%



### Mental health

12% of adults report high or very high psychological distress



### Reproductive/sexual health

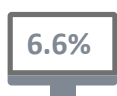
Gippsland has twice as many babies born to teenagers

## 3. Better health services...



### Access to services

35% of people live near public transport (Victoria 74%)



### Better use of technology

6.6% or 17,839 Gippsland residents have a My Health Record



### Services working together

"There are silos between services and not enough communication"



### High quality care

"...education to make sure health professionals are up to date with current practice."



### Enough trained health professionals

Gippsland has half as many physiotherapists, podiatrists and psychologists for its residents compared to Victoria

We value engagement with our health professionals, carers and patients who let us know what is happening 'on the ground'.

## Clinical Councils

Clinical Councils are structures of Gippsland PHN that report directly to our organisation's Board.

Clinical Councils ensure we have input and advice from a broad group of clinicians who have valuable insight into our health system in Gippsland.

The Gippsland PHN Clinical Council model consists of three sub-regional, GP-led Clinical Councils (Bass Coast & South Gippsland Clinical Council, Wellington & East Gippsland Clinical Council, and Baw Baw & Latrobe Clinical Council) that report to an overarching Gippsland Clinical Advisory Council. The Chairs of the sub-regional Clinical Councils also sit on the Clinical Advisory Council in addition to three nominated Gippsland PHN Board members and Executive Team sponsors.

## Community Advisory Committee

The Community Advisory Committee is a key Gippsland PHN group that comprises up to 12 community members from across the six Local Government Areas in Gippsland.

The committee provides the patient perspective to Gippsland PHN projects and programs through input, recommendations and advice to the Gippsland PHN Board and Executive Team.



# Committee Membership

## Clinical Advisory Council

- Nola Maxfield (Chair and Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Mark Biggs (Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Julie Rogalsky (Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Trevor Andrews (GP and Chair of the Bass Coast & South Gippsland Clinical Council)
- Letitia Clark (GP, Chair of the Latrobe & Baw Baw Clinical Council)
- Peter Stevens (GP and Chair of the Wellington & East Gippsland Clinical Council)

Email [clac@gphn.org.au](mailto:clac@gphn.org.au) to get in touch with the Clinical Advisory Council.

## Wellington & East Gippsland Clinical Council

- Peter Stevens (Chair, GP)
- Patrick Kinsella (GP)
- Elisabeth Wearne (GP)
- Andrew Roberts (GP)
- Sharee Johnson (Psychologist)
- Brendon Moar (Pharmacy)
- John Gibson (Dentistry)
- Owen Connolly (Mental Health Nurse Practitioner)
- Cassandra Mayman (Practice Manager)
- Myles Chapman (GP)
- Paula Morgan (ACCHO)
- Gippsland PHN Executive Sponsor and Practice Support member

Email [wegcc@gphn.org.au](mailto:wegcc@gphn.org.au) to get in touch with the Wellington & East Gippsland Clinical Council.

## Latrobe & Baw Baw Clinical Council

- Letitia Clark (Chair, GP)
- Patrick Ruane (GP Obstetrician)
- Fred Edwards (GP)
- Audra Fenton (Nurse)
- Stuart Jillings (Nurse)
- Leanne Coupland (Allied health)
- Helen Rawlings (Mental health)
- Liz Plunkett (Pharmacy)
- Gippsland PHN Executive Sponsor and Practice Support member

Email [lbcc@gphn.org.au](mailto:lbcc@gphn.org.au) to get in touch with the Latrobe & Baw Baw Clinical Council.

## Bass Coast & South Gippsland Clinical Council

- Trevor Andrews (Chair, GP)
- Sue Comerford (GP)
- Paul Greenhalgh (Nurse)
- Tania Findlay (Nurse)
- Anna Close-Mewett (Nurse)
- Gayle Bloch (Practice Manager)
- Francis Sullivan (Allied health)
- Joanne Drury (Psychologist)
- Rhett McLennan (Aged care)
- Daniel Smith (Ambulatory care)
- Gippsland PHN Executive Sponsor and Practice Support member

Email [bcsgcc@gphn.org.au](mailto:bcsgcc@gphn.org.au) to get in touch with the Bass Coast & South Gippsland Clinical Council.

## Community Advisory Committee

- Anne Peek (Chair and Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Duncan Malcolm (Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Murray Bruce (Gippsland PHN Board Director)
- Patricia Bryce
- Marion Byrne
- Owen Deppeler
- Sue Gaffney
- Julie Hocking
- Michael Klein
- John Lawrence
- Robyn Proffitt
- Rebecca Slavin
- Jeanne Van Der Geest Dekker

Email [cac@gphn.org.au](mailto:cac@gphn.org.au) to get in touch with the Community Advisory Committee.







## *Keep in touch with us...*

**Want to know more about education and training opportunities, our programs and projects or just stay up to date with what's happening in the health industry?**

- Subscribe to our newsletters.
- Get in touch with a Clinical Council or the Community Advisory Committee.
- Become a member of Gippsland PHN.
- Follow us on Twitter @gippslandphn.
- Check out our website - [www.gphn.org.au](http://www.gphn.org.au).
- Contact a member of our team - view the 'meet the team' poster which includes staff portfolios and contact details on our website.

[www.gphn.org.au](http://www.gphn.org.au)

## Board of Directors

Gippsland PHN's skills based Board Directors are:

- Dr Sinead De Gooyer (Chair)
- Mr Duncan Malcolm (Deputy Chair)
- Mr Mark Biggs
- Mr Murray Bruce
- Dr Nola Maxfield
- Ms Kellie O'Callaghan
- Ms Anne Peek
- Ms Julie Rogalsky
- Mr Jim Turcato

## Executive Team

- Ms Marianne Shearer, Chief Executive Officer
- Ms Amanda Proposch, Executive Manager Primary Health & System Integration
- Ms Carmel Riley, Executive Manager Health Planning & Commissioning
- Mr Robert Cherry, Executive Manager Corporate Services

Access our 'meet the team' poster from our website, which details all our talented staff working across our offices in Gippsland.

[www.gphn.org.au](http://www.gphn.org.au)



*Gippsland PHN offices are located  
in Wonthaggi, Moe and Bairnsdale.*





An Australian Government Initiative

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