

2008 - 2011



strategic plan



SGPN

southern general practice network Ltd

Phone: 4474 5100 Fax: 4474 511 www.sgpn.com.au

Planning Committee's Forward

In 2006 the SGPN Board established a Planning Subcommittee to work towards the development of a Strategic Plan that would direct the activities of the Network for 2008-2011.

The committee has met over 16 months and reviewed previous GP and staff satisfaction surveys, demographic data on the health of the south east community, performance indicators set by our funding bodies as well as State and Federal planning documents.

This review examined the needs of our membership, expectations of funding bodies and new opportunities available to us. This process has identified much strength in how SGPN currently functions but has also identified gaps in our range of member services. It has recognised opportunities to increase our services, but also identified the challenges of doing this in a manner that both serves the needs of our members and meets the requirements of government and non-government funding bodies.

Throughout this process it became apparent that this is a time of significant change in the provision of funding to health services and in developing a plan for the future we would need to look closely at who we are as an organisation, our objectives and the needs of members.

Increasingly there will be requests for us to take on management of allied health services in the community. The committee saw the need to respond to these requests in a manner compatible with our mission of supporting and developing the network of General Practices in our region as a key issue.

This document is a Strategic Plan and sets out the broad Objectives and Strategies for the Southern General Practice Network. We have also developed an Operational Plan which sets out tasks for each strategy.

If you would like to see the Operational Plan please contact the Network on 02 4474 5100 or view it on our website www.sgpn.com.au.



Why have a Strategic Plan?

The strategic planning process has provided an important opportunity for GPs, SGPN staff, the Board and other stakeholders to have an input into the future of the Network.

Strategic Planning is essential to all well-managed organisations and ensures that we remain focused on the needs of our members, are aware of new opportunities available to us and move towards desired objectives.

The Region

The Southern General Practice Network covers an area of 52,214 sq kms of South East New South Wales. There are 16 local government areas which the Network has divided into seven regions: Eurobodalla, Far South Coast, Cooma/Snowy Mountains, Yass, Young, Queanbeyan and Goulburn. SGPN represents and provides services to 196 GPs and 210 practice staff who work within the Network boundaries.*

SGPN employs 23 FTE staff, 10.8 of which are allied health professionals working within General Practice.

*as of May 2008



MISSION STATEMENT

To provide advocacy and support to General Practice in the delivery of high quality health services to our community.

Objectives and Strategies

OBJECTIVE 1

To be a true advocate for General Practice and responsive to the needs of General Practice and General Practitioners

- 1.1** Increase capacity and effectiveness of SGPN to respond in a timely manner to General Practice issues
- 1.2** Advocate generally on behalf of General Practice in all dealings with external agencies
- 1.3** Provide advocacy services to General Practitioners in their specific dealings with government and non government agencies
- 1.4** Communicate with other health providers to ensure continuity and integration of services

OBJECTIVE 2

To maintain satisfactory General Practice workforce and skill levels across the Southern General Practice Network

- 2.1** Determine satisfactory workforce requirements throughout the Network
- 2.2** Actively undertake recruitment activities to increase General Practice workforce as required
- 2.3** Provide educational activities to General Practice

2.4 Provide opportunities to relieve and support the existing workforce

2.5 Welcome and support new GPs in the region

OBJECTIVE 3

To deliver services to General Practitioners that promote viable and sustainable General Practice

- 3.1** Provide advice on business systems
- 3.2** Provide assistance to General Practice to access funding opportunities
- 3.3** Ensure services offered are appropriate to the needs of General Practice
- 3.4** Provide accreditation services to General Practice
- 3.5** Assist practices with the uptake of Australian government health care programs and initiatives
- 3.6** Implement the Australian Primary Care Collaborative methodology in interested practices
- 3.7** Promote effective utilisation of practice staff
- 3.8** Provide support and training to practice staff

OBJECTIVE 4

To improve the health of the South East community by increasing the range of services available through General Practice

- 4.1** Increase the provision of allied health services available through General Practice
- 4.2** Improve access to General Practice for high risk disadvantaged and special need populations
- 4.3** Improve access to specialist health services
- 4.4** Increase the effectiveness of General Practice through the prevention, early intervention and effective management of chronic disease
- 4.5** Monitor and respond to local health care needs through GP representation in local health services planning and review
- 4.6** Engage in health promotion activities

OBJECTIVE 5

To support the uptake of eHealth and other IT initiatives which promote effective health care and practice management

- 5.1** Implement eHealth initiatives that improve transfer of information between health agencies and General Practice
- 5.2** Support health information management to inform quality improvements in health care, including the collection and use of clinical data within practices

OBJECTIVE 6

To facilitate effective communication between the Network, Board, members and the Community

- 6.1** Improve two-way communication with members
- 6.2** Increase the public profile of the Network and its services

OBJECTIVE 7

To maintain the Network's position as a high quality, financially secure, viable and well managed agency

- 7.1** Maintain accreditation of the Network and meet all DOHA indicators
- 7.2** Implement contemporary standards of effective governance and management
- 7.3** Implement best practice in information management
- 7.4** Attract and retain appropriately skilled staff
- 7.5** Maintain excellent financial accountability and transparency in the management of funds
- 7.6** Actively seek and attract funding from diverse sources (public and private sector)
- 7.7** Share expertise with the wider Divisions Network
- 7.8** Explore options for the development of business and commercial services

