

Corporate governance statement

Medibank was founded in 1976 as a private health insurer and was operated by the Australian Government. In 1998, Medibank Private Limited became the operating entity with the Commonwealth of Australia as the sole shareholder. In 2014 the Australian Government sold Medibank by way of an initial public offering, and divested all its shares in Medibank. Medibank listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) on 25 November 2014.

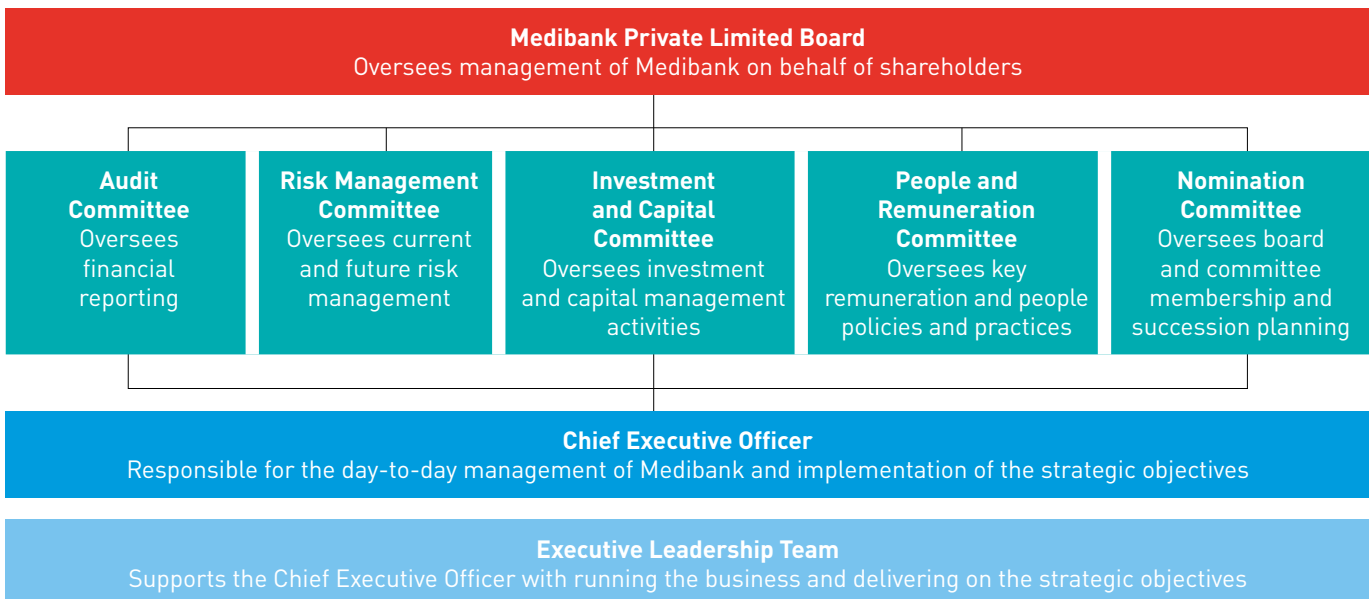
The Board is committed to improving our customers' experience and providing them with greater value. In line with this, the Board seeks to ensure that Medibank is properly managed to protect and enhance shareholder interests, and that Medibank, its directors, officers and employees operate in an appropriate environment of corporate governance.

The Board has a framework in place for governing Medibank. This includes adopting internal controls, risk management processes and corporate governance policies and practices, designed to promote responsible management and ethical conduct.

During the year, Medibank had in place policies and practices which comply with the recommendations in the ASX Corporate Governance Council Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations, 3rd edition. As a registered private health insurer, Medibank also complies with a governance standard issued by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA). The key corporate governance practices applied at Medibank are described in this statement and the key corporate governance policies are available on the corporate governance section of our website at www.medibank.com.au.

Governance structure

The governance and performance of Medibank is overseen by the Board elected by the shareholders.



Roles and responsibilities of the Board and management

The Board provides overall strategic guidance for Medibank and effective oversight of management. Responsibility for the governance of Medibank, including establishing and monitoring key performance goals, rests with the Board. The Board monitors the operational performance and financial position of Medibank, as well as overseeing the business strategy and approving strategic goals. In performing its role, the Board is committed to ensuring sound corporate governance practices.

The Board Charter, which is available on our website, articulates the Board's roles and responsibilities, its membership and operation, and which responsibilities may be delegated to committees or to management.

Specific responsibilities have been reserved by the Board in key areas of strategy, governance (including disclosure), executive appointments, financial approvals and reporting, risk management and culture. The Board has established standing committees to assist in performing its responsibilities. These committees examine particular issues in detail and make recommendations to the Board. A description of these committees can be found on pages 38 to 39.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) has responsibility for managing the day-to-day affairs of Medibank. The CEO, with the support of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT), manages Medibank in accordance with the Board-approved Corporate Plan, the corporate strategy and Medibank's policies within the risk appetite set by the Board. A detailed delegation of authority framework defines the decision making and expenditure limits that apply at various levels of management.

Key areas of focus for the Board in 2019

- Review of strategy, including evaluation of opportunities for:
 - Enhancement of customer experience.
 - Improving affordability for customers.
 - Expansion of health and care services.
 - Improvement of customer health outcomes.
- Oversight of acquisitions and organic growth initiatives to support execution of strategy.
- Oversight of the implementation of the enterprise risk and compliance management framework, including the effectiveness of the risk management framework which is aligned with the APRA Prudential Standard CPS220.
- Review and monitoring of financial and non-financial material risks and emerging risks.
- Oversight and continued strengthening of the risk and compliance culture throughout the organisation.
- Review and approval of Corporate Plan, budget and performance targets and oversight of business performance against these targets.
- Oversight and monitoring of the remuneration framework, including executive remuneration.
- Oversight and continued strengthening of the governance framework, including measures to proactively address relevant financial services industry issues identified by APRA's 2017-18 inquiry into the Commonwealth Bank and the Hayne Royal Commission.
- Oversight and monitoring of regulatory compliance matters.
- Review of Board composition, including consideration of succession planning.
- Oversight of significant contracts, including contract renewals.

Structure and composition of the Board

The Board comprises nine directors in total – eight non-executive directors, including a non-executive Chairman, and the CEO.

The Chairman of the Board, Elizabeth Alexander AO, is an independent, non-executive director. She is responsible for providing leadership to the Board and Medibank as a whole. The Chairman's other key responsibilities are outlined in the Board Charter.

Biographies of the directors, including their skills, experience and year of appointment, are set out on pages 29 to 31 of the annual report. Details of directors' attendance at Board and committee meetings during the year ended 30 June 2019 are on page 45. The length of service of the non-executive directors ranges from one year and 11 months to 10 years and 10 months.

Independence

Directors are expected to bring an independent judgement to bear on all Board decisions. A director is considered independent if they are a non-executive director who is not a member of management, and are free of any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with the exercise of their unfettered and independent judgement or could reasonably be perceived to do so.

Each director provides periodic updates of their interests, positions, associations and relationships, and all directors must keep the Board advised on an ongoing basis of any interest that could potentially conflict with those of Medibank. Directors will be required to abstain from participating in discussions or voting on any matters in which they have, or may be perceived to have, a material personal interest.

The Board regularly assesses the independence of each director in light of the interests disclosed. The Board has assessed the interests, positions, associations and relationships of each director as at the date of this statement. It has determined that all non-executive directors, including the Chairman, satisfy the independence criteria recommended by the ASX Corporate Governance Council and prescribed by APRA.

To provide an opportunity for independent discussion, the non-executive directors meet without management present at the commencement of each Board meeting.

Appointment and re-election of directors

Medibank's Constitution provides that a director may be appointed by the Board, and if so, is subject to election by shareholders at the annual general meeting (AGM) following their appointment if they wish to remain a director (other than the CEO). Individuals may also be nominated by shareholders to stand for election as a director at the AGM. The Constitution requires an election of directors at each AGM, and a director must retire and may stand for re-election by the third AGM following the director's election. David Fagan and Linda Nicholls will retire and offer themselves for re-election at the upcoming AGM on 14 November 2019. Further information about these directors is set out on pages 29 to 31 of the annual report, and in the notice of annual general meeting.

Before appointing a person as a director, the Board undertakes checks as to that person's character, experience and background, including criminal and bankruptcy checks. Medibank has a 'Fit and Proper Policy' that complies with APRA's Fit and Proper Prudential Standard, which applies to private health insurers effective 1 July 2019. This standard requires that a person in a position of responsibility, including a director, be assessed prior to appointment (or in some cases, as soon as possible after appointment) and on an ongoing basis as to whether the person meets the fit and proper requirements. The person must have the appropriate skills, experience and knowledge to perform the role and act with the requisite character, diligence, honesty, integrity and judgement.

Upon appointment, each non-executive director enters into a service agreement setting out the terms of their appointment. This includes the requirement to build a shareholding in Medibank in order to align the interests of directors with those of shareholders. The Minimum Shareholding Policy requires non-executive directors to acquire shares equal to the value of one year's base fee after tax over a period of five years.

As part of the appointment process, Medibank enters into a deed of indemnity, insurance and access with each director. Each director is indemnified against liability in connection with their role as a director and Medibank is required to maintain a directors' and officers' insurance policy. The deed confirms and extends the director's general law rights of access to Board papers and other records of Medibank.

Director induction, continuing education and access to information

The Board is committed to enhancement of the capabilities of each director and the performance of the Board generally. Upon joining the Board, all new non-executive directors undertake a full, formal and tailored induction program. The program includes meetings with the Chairman, CEO, ELT and senior leaders on Medibank's business, strategy and operation. The Board is provided with ongoing professional development opportunities during the year. This involves formal briefing sessions on a range of subjects by key stakeholders, including regulators and industry experts, to provide deeper insights on industry context and trends. This also includes site visits to Medibank's operations and retail centres, customer engagement, conference attendance and one-on-one discussions on technical aspects of the business.

The directors have complete and open access to the CEO, ELT and senior management following consultation with the CEO. A director may, following consultation with and consent from the Chairman, seek independent professional advice at Medibank's expense in respect of any matter connected with the discharge of the director's responsibilities. Directors also have direct access to the advice and services of the Company Secretary, who is accountable to the Board through the Chairman, and advises the Board and the Chairman on all governance matters.

Board skills, experience and diversity

The Nomination Committee regularly reviews the balance of skills, experience, independence, knowledge and diversity of the Board, and is committed to ensuring that the directors collectively have the appropriate skills mix. The evolution of the mix of skills and diversity of the Board is a long-term process and must reflect the current and emerging challenges for the organisation. The Nomination Committee takes into account the organisation's strategic areas of focus, customer needs and external environment, including stakeholder sentiment, and assesses these various factors to ensure that an appropriate balance of skills and diversity is achieved on the Board.

Expertise and experience in developing and implementing strategy and financial and risk management are seen as critical skills required for the Board to be able to effectively govern and oversee the organisation. As a result these skills are widely held by the Board members.

Our core business of the provision of private health insurance products with an unwavering focus on our customers means that the Board must have skills and experience in the insurance sector as well as customer facing businesses for Medibank to be successful. Board members have expertise in both these areas from a number of different industry sectors, including the general insurance and healthcare sectors.

Our vision to become a healthcare company and our recent acquisitions in the healthcare delivery sector make it critical for the Board to have members with experience in the delivery of healthcare services. This is captured in the collective experience of our directors ranging from operational expertise through to strategic oversight.

Health industry reform is not only inevitable, but also vital for the ongoing sustainability of our healthcare system. To play a role in this area, the Board must have members with experience and expertise in both building and maintaining government relations and influencing policy creation. Once again the Board has a number of highly experienced individuals in this area.

Finally, the Board has identified as critical enablers skills in human resources and remuneration and technology and has ensured that the Board has covered these areas of expertise in constituting the current Board.

The skills and expertise that the Board has identified as relevant to the performance of its role and the success of the organisation are summarised in the Board skills matrix.

The very nature of diversity means that not all members of the Board have all the skills listed on the following page to the same degree. However, the Board believes the current mix of expertise and experience of members of the Board creates a diverse range of views and perspectives, and results in the Board providing effective governance, oversight and strategic leadership for Medibank.

Board skills matrix

Strategy

Developing and implementing organisational strategies, and appropriately challenging management on delivery of strategic objectives

Financial and capital management

Proficiency in financial accounting and reporting, corporate finance, internal financial controls, corporate funding and capital management and investments, and understanding of associated risks

Risk management, governance and compliance

Establishing risk management frameworks, setting the risk appetite, and overseeing organisational risk culture

Overseeing operations in a complex regulated environment, and demonstrating commitment to the highest governance standards

Insurance and healthcare sector experience

Knowledge, experience and expertise in the insurance industry and healthcare sector

Customer experience and marketing

Developing product and/or customer management strategies, and experience in marketing

Human resources and executive remuneration

Understanding the link between strategy, culture, performance, long-term shareholder value creation and remuneration outcomes

Government relations and public policy

Interacting with government and regulators and being involved in public policy decisions

Technology

Understanding technology and innovation in large organisations, and overseeing development and implementation of initiatives to enhance productivity and customer experiences

Board performance evaluation

The Nomination Committee is responsible for reporting on the evaluation of the performance of the Chairman, Board, committees and individual directors to the Board. The evaluation is conducted annually either through an internal review process or an external process.

In 2019, the Chairman of the Nomination Committee led an internal Board evaluation by way of a detailed directors' survey seeking feedback in the areas of the role of the Board, people on the Board, procedures and practices, and behaviours. The internal Board evaluation in 2019 followed the external evaluation that was undertaken in 2018. Following the survey, the Board discussed and evaluated the outcomes and committed to relevant action items. The performance evaluation of the Board included assessment of the handling by committees of the issues and challenges which arose during the year.

The Chairman continues to be responsible for the assessment of each individual non-executive director's performance and contribution. The Chairman met with each of the non-executive directors in 2019 to review their performance and training needs.

Committees of the Board

The Board has established five standing committees to assist in the execution of its responsibilities – the Audit Committee, Risk Management Committee, Investment and Capital Committee, People and Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee. Each committee is governed by a charter setting out the committee's role, responsibilities, membership and processes. The membership, roles and responsibilities of each committee are summarised in the table on the following page. The charters can be accessed on our website.

The relevant qualifications and experience of the members of each committee can be found in the director biographies on pages 29 to 31 of the annual report. The number of meetings of each committee, and the individual attendance of their members, are provided on page 45.

Corporate governance statement

Committee membership as at 22 August 2019	Composition	Key roles and responsibilities
<p>Audit Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christine O'Reilly (Chairman) Elizabeth Alexander Peter Hodgett 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least three members, all of whom are non-executive directors, a majority of whom are independent directors and at least one of whom is a member of the Risk Management Committee. Structured so that members are all financially literate, and between them have accounting and financial expertise and experience and an understanding of Medibank's industries. The chairman must be an independent non-executive director, and must not be the chairman of the Board (but the chairman of the Board may sit on the committee). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overseeing and reviewing the integrity of external financial reporting and financial statements. Endorsing and recommending the appointment and removal of, and reviewing the terms of engagement, performance and independence of external auditors. Reviewing management processes for compliance with relevant laws, regulations and other accounting and external reporting requirements. Overseeing and reviewing internal and external audit processes and internal control framework.
<p>Risk Management Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Fagan (Chairman) Elizabeth Alexander Christine O'Reilly Mike Wilkins Tracey Batten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least three members, all of whom are non-executive directors, a majority of whom are independent directors and at least one of whom is a member of the Audit Committee. Structured to have the necessary knowledge and a sufficient understanding of Medibank's industries. The chairman must be an independent non-executive director, and must not be the chairman of the Board (but the chairman of the Board may sit on the committee). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approving and recommending to the Board the adoption of policies and procedures on risk oversight and management to ensure effective risk management systems are in place. Ensuring that Medibank has in place a robust risk management framework and procedure to support the effective identification and management of risks. Evaluating the adequacy and effectiveness of the management and reporting and control systems associated with material risks. Establishment and monitoring of Medibank's overall risk appetite. Monitoring and review of Medibank's risk culture. Oversight and prior endorsement of the appointment and replacement of the Chief Risk Officer.
<p>Investment and Capital Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Hodgett (Chairman) Anna Bligh David Fagan Mike Wilkins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least three non-executive directors, all of whom are independent directors. The chairman must be an independent non-executive director, appointed by the Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting and advising the Board on capital and investment related matters. Overseeing the investment strategy and Capital Management Policy. Monitoring the effectiveness of the investment process. Authorising delegated investment decisions.
<p>People and Remuneration Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linda Bardo Nicholls (Chairman) Anna Bligh Tracey Batten 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least three members, all of whom are non-executive directors, a majority of whom are independent directors and at least one of whom is a member of the Risk Management Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing and overseeing people and organisational culture strategies, including employee engagement, values and behaviours. Reviewing the remuneration framework and arrangements for the non-executive directors, CEO and ELT.

Committee membership as at 22 August 2019	Composition	Key roles and responsibilities
People and Remuneration Committee (continued)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The chairman must be an independent non-executive director, appointed by the Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing executive succession planning, talent management, industrial relations and diversity strategies. Reviewing and overseeing key incentive schemes and equity incentive plans. Setting measurable objectives for diversity. Reviewing and monitoring Medibank's health, safety and wellbeing performance.
Nomination Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth Alexander (Chairman) Christine O'Reilly Linda Bardo Nicholls Peter Hodgett David Fagan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At least three non-executive directors, all of whom are independent directors. The chairman of the Board will be the chairman of the committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director selection and appointment. Director induction and professional development. Board composition. Board succession planning. Performance evaluation of the Board, committees and individual directors.

Executive Leadership Team

The CEO, supported by the ELT, is responsible for the day-to-day management and performance of Medibank. The ELT profiles and accountabilities are set out on pages 32 to 33. The ELT members have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities through position descriptions and a structured performance management system. Each ELT member has entered into a service agreement with Medibank which sets out the terms of their employment. The remuneration policies and practices applying to the ELT as key management personnel are detailed in the remuneration report from page 47.

The remuneration report (from page 47) contains the performance measures applied to ELT members and the process for the annual evaluation of their performance. A performance evaluation was undertaken during 2019 in accordance with that process for each person who was an ELT member as at 30 June 2019.

Ethical standards

Central to the Board's governance framework is a culture of ethical behaviour based on Medibank's key values. These values are intended to guide the way employees work together and engage with customers, business partners, governments and the wider community, and are supported by a range of policies and procedures.

The Medibank Code of Conduct, available on our website, sets out the way employees, including directors and executives, work and the practical principles and minimum standards of expected behaviour. Responsibilities include behaving in a manner that promotes health, safety and

wellbeing, that fosters relationships of trust and respect that avoids conflicts of interest (including not offering or accepting secret commissions or bribes) and that respects privacy and protects confidential information. Medibank has different approaches to dealing with breaches of the Code of Conduct depending on the circumstances. Identification and reporting of all conduct that is inappropriate or exposes Medibank to unacceptable loss or risk is encouraged. The Whistleblower Policy protects whistleblowers from victimisation or disadvantage as a response to making reports. A whistleblower reporting service called Medibank Alert is available through an external provider, enabling whistleblowers to report conduct anonymously, or limit who is informed of their identity. Ethical conduct is further supported by corporate policies, including in the areas of anti-bribery, anti-corruption and conflicts of interest.

Medibank has a health and safety management system in place to ensure it meets legislative requirements and proactively addresses its key risks in health and safety. Following the acquisition of Home Support Services (HSS), work is under way to align the HSS health and safety management practices with those of Medibank. The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy underpins our objective of preventing injury and illness through a culture of health promotion, injury prevention and early intervention.

The Share Trading Policy, available on our website and described on page 53, applies to directors, executives, employees and contractors. Restrictions include blackout periods during which trading in Medibank shares by directors, executives and specific corporate employees is prohibited. These periods apply in the lead up to the release of financial results and at other times as required.

Diversity and inclusion

Medibank is committed to creating an inclusive culture that acknowledges and embraces difference in all its forms and ensures that every voice is heard. We recognise that all employees are different, and these differences benefit our employees, shareholders, customers and the community.

The Board has adopted a Diversity and Inclusion Policy that supports and facilitates an inclusive environment. The policy outlines the role of the People and Remuneration Committee in recommending to the Board measurable objectives for achieving diversity (including gender diversity) and annually assessing progress against these. The policy (including the measurable objectives) is reviewed annually and is available on our website.

A diversity and inclusion strategy supports the policy and sets out the measurable objectives established by the Board.

The Board emphasises the importance of having a gender diverse leadership team, which is supported by Medibank's commitment to having and maintaining at least 40% female representation in the Group executive and senior executive population. As at June 2019 the actual representation was 49%.

In May 2019 we completed the reporting of our gender equality indicators under the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012* (Cth). The reports can be accessed on our website. As at 30 June 2019, the respective proportions of men and women on the Board, in Group and senior executive positions and across the whole organisation were as follows:

Position	Undefined	Women	Men	% women
Board (excluding CEO)		5	3	63%
Group executives*		2	5	29%
Senior executives**		32	30	52%
Group & senior executive total		34	35	49%
Senior managers		151	175	46%
Other managers	2	315	301	51%
Non-managers	9	2,561	699	79%
Overall (excluding Board)	11	3,061	1,210	72%

* "Group executive" positions refer to the CEO and the Executive Leadership Team (ELT). All of the ELT report directly to the CEO.

** "Senior executive" positions include all roles classified as "Senior Executive" as part of Medibank's broad based banding framework. As at 30 June 2019, they represent the 62 most senior positions across the Group outside of Group executive roles.

In 2018 the Board set measurable objectives for achieving diversity at Medibank, including gender diversity, and committed to reporting progress achieved against these in the 2019 corporate governance statement. The table below shows our progress against these objectives:

Measurable objective	Progress towards achievement
Medibank will remain committed to ensuring a representation of at least 40% women across our senior leadership population.	As at June 2019, Medibank had achieved 49% female representation in Group and senior executive roles, 46% in senior manager roles and 51% in other management roles. Female representation at the senior executive level has increased by 5% (or five women) since June 2018 and was 52% at 30 June 2019.
Medibank will increase the representation and self-reported engagement of Indigenous employees and employees with a disability.	<p>We successfully launched our first Accessibility & Inclusion Plan in November 2018. This focused on removing barriers that may exist for people with disability, to ensure equal access to better health outcomes and to provide sustainable employment for people with disabilities. Based on an employee self-report measure as part of our annual employee engagement survey (My Voice), 7.1% of employees identify as having a disability, up 0.7% compared to 2018. This compares to a representation of approximately 9% in the general working population. Engagement for this group has also increased by 6%.</p> <p>Progress against Medibank's fourth Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) has also continued. It is focused on strengthening cultural awareness and understanding of Indigenous issues across Medibank, and providing sustainable opportunities for Indigenous Australians. Our My Voice results show that the number of employees who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander has dropped from 11 people to four people, representing less than 0.1% of Medibank's population.</p>

Measurable objective	Progress towards achievement
	This compares to a representation of 2% in the general Australian workforce. While this is a disappointing result, we are focusing on creating greater pipelines for sustainable Indigenous employment, with an increase in the number of opportunities offered in terms of Indigenous internships and placements.
Medibank will continue to benchmark our diversity and inclusion practices by maintaining our citation as a Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) Employer of Choice for Gender Equality. We will also benchmark our practice via the Australian Workplace Equality Index (AWEI) for LGBTI Inclusion, and the Australian Network on Disability's (AND) Access and Inclusion Index.	In 2019, Medibank was named an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality by WGEA for the third year running. On AND's Access and Inclusion Index, our ranking improved from sixth place to second, indicating that Medibank is among the top two organisations in Australia for accessibility and inclusion of people with disability. As a health organisation, we shifted from benchmarking our practices against the AWEI to benchmarking against the inaugural Pride in Health & Wellbeing Index. The index focuses on organisations providing equitable access to health and wellbeing services and health outcomes for people who identify as LGBTI. Medibank was named a silver tier organisation on the index.

For 2019 the Board has set the following measurable objectives for achieving diversity at Medibank, including gender diversity, and is committed to reporting progress achieved against these in the 2020 corporate governance statement:

1. Medibank will remain committed to ensuring a representation of at least 40% women across our senior leadership population.
2. Medibank will continue its commitment to supporting those on parental leave and increasing the male take up of parental leave.
3. Medibank will continue its focus on increasing the representation and self-reported engagement of:
 - (a) Employees with a disability.
 - (b) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees.
4. Medibank will continue to externally benchmark diversity and inclusion practices, including via ACON's Pride in Health & Wellbeing Index and AND's Access and Inclusion Index.

Market and shareholder communication

Market disclosure

We promote investor confidence and the rights of shareholders by ensuring the immediate disclosure of market sensitive information regarding Medibank. The measures to further these commitments are detailed in the Disclosure and Communication Policy approved by the Board, which is available on our website. This policy is designed to facilitate compliance with Medibank's obligations under the ASX Listing Rules and the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) by assigning authorisation processes for market announcements, and reserving certain matters for approval by the Board. Processes for engagement with analysts and investors are detailed in the policy as well as the assignment of spokespersons for market and media communications. Awareness and compliance is promoted by compulsory periodic online employee training and additional information sessions for those likely to become aware of potentially market sensitive information.

The Board is supported by a management Disclosure Committee responsible for considering potentially market sensitive information and monitoring Medibank's disclosure processes and reporting framework. The Disclosure Committee Charter is available within the Disclosure and Communication Policy.

Information about Medibank and its governance

Our website provides information about Medibank and its corporate governance, and an investor centre that provides information specifically for prospective and existing Medibank shareholders which links to Medibank's results, investor presentations, annual reports, share price, ASX announcements and AGM materials. We also maintain a shareholder calendar of upcoming events within the investor centre, along with information to assist investors in managing their shareholdings. Medibank's share register is managed by Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited which provides an accessible online platform for shareholders to access and manage their shareholdings.

Medibank encourages shareholders to receive communications securely by email for reasons of speed, security, environmental friendliness and cost reductions. Unless a shareholder elects to receive information by post, Medibank communicates with shareholders via email and other electronic channels, including providing notices of meetings and facilitating online voting on the AGM resolutions.

Investor engagement

We conduct briefings, meetings, telephone calls and webcasts for institutional and retail investors, analysts and proxy advisors to provide a greater understanding of the business and results. Investor briefings and ad hoc meetings with institutional and retail investors, analysts and proxy advisors provide a forum for two-way communications between Medibank and the investment community. During the year, we participated and presented at a number of conferences including the Citi Australia and New Zealand Investment Conference in October 2018 and the Macquarie Australia Conference in May 2019.

Communication with the investment community is generally through the CEO, the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and the Senior Executive Corporate Finance and, in relation to governance and remuneration issues, the Chairman. Feedback from engagement with the investor community is communicated to the Board at each Board meeting.

In all communications with investors, analysts and media, only publicly available information and information that is not market sensitive is discussed. In order to ensure that all shareholders have equal and timely access to material information concerning Medibank, advance notification of investor and analyst results briefings is announced via the ASX. The briefing materials are released first via the ASX and then on the investor centre section of our website, together with a recording of the half and full year results briefing.

Shareholder meetings

The Board encourages shareholders to attend the AGM and to take the opportunity to ask questions of the Board. The meeting is held at an accessible venue in Melbourne. For shareholders unable to attend, the meeting is webcast live, and is then made available on our website.

The external auditor attends the AGM and is available at the meeting to answer questions relevant to the auditor's report.

We provide shareholders with a clear and concise notice of meeting setting out the business to be considered, including all material information relevant to the election or re-election of directors. These materials, together with the presentations at the AGM and the voting results, are released to the ASX and then made available on our website.

Integrity of financial reporting

The Board has a strong commitment to the integrity and quality of its financial reporting and its systems for risk management, compliance and internal control.

The role of the Audit Committee is to provide a non-executive review of the effectiveness of Medibank's internal control, financial reporting and risk management framework, to assist the Board in carrying out its accounting, auditing, and financial reporting responsibilities.

The Audit Committee currently comprises three non-executive directors. The chairman of the committee is an independent non-executive director who is not the chairman of the Board. Committee members are appointed based on their qualifications and experience to ensure that the committee can adequately discharge its duties. The current committee comprises directors with accounting and financial expertise and experience, and who between them have a deep understanding of the health and insurance industries and includes at least one director who is a member of the Risk Management Committee. Any director may attend Audit Committee meetings. Representatives of management and the manager responsible for internal audit may attend Audit Committee meetings by standing invitation, and the Chief Actuary and the external auditors are invited as required.

Financial reporting assurances

The preparation of the full year and half year financial statements is subject to a detailed process of review and approval by the Board supported by the Audit Committee.

As required under section 295A of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), the Board receives a declaration from the CEO and the CFO that the financial records of the company have been properly maintained and that the financial statements and notes comply with accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position and performance for the financial period. This includes a written declaration that their opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively in all material respects in relation to financial reporting risks.

This declaration was received by the Board prior to approving the financial statements for the half year ended 31 December 2018 and the full year ended 30 June 2019.

Internal audit

Medibank has an internal audit function. Its role is to provide independent and objective assurance to the Audit Committee on the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management framework and internal control and compliance systems. The annual Internal Audit Plan, which is approved by the Audit Committee, is developed using a risk-based approach and is driven by Medibank's strategy, risk profile and assurance priorities. The Internal Audit Charter provides the internal audit team unrestricted access to review all activities of the business. The internal audit function is supplemented by the engagement of external subject matter experts when required.

The head of the internal audit function is the Senior Executive Internal Audit. To ensure the independence of the internal audit function the role reports directly to the Audit Committee chairman, with a direct communication line to the CEO and administrative reporting line to the CFO. The Senior Executive Internal Audit reports to each Audit Committee meeting on progress against the annual Internal Audit Plan, audit findings and recommendations, business insights and the status of management actions.

Risk management

Medibank's risk management framework encompasses the systems, structures, policies, processes and people that manage risks across the business. It guides risk management activities across the business to effectively identify, assess, manage, monitor and report risks. The framework is implemented through the three lines of defence model and its effectiveness is assessed by the internal audit function on an annual basis in accordance with the Risk Management Committee Charter. A review of the framework was completed for 2019.

A key component of the framework is the definition of Medibank's risk appetite by the Board which informs management's decision making process.

Over the last 12 months, Medibank has continued to strengthen enterprise risk management practices in alignment with the requirements outlined in the APRA Prudential Standard CPS220 – Risk Management.

Material business risks are discussed in the operating and financial review on pages 27 to 28 of the annual report and can be broadly categorised as strategic, credit, capital and liquidity, market and investment, insurance, clinical, operational and regulatory compliance. We have not identified any material exposures to environmental or social sustainability risks, but recognise the science of climate change and its impact on human health.

Governance

The Board has overall responsibility for Medibank's risk management framework including setting the risk appetite for Medibank. The Board reviews the risk management framework at least annually and satisfies itself that management has developed and implemented a sound system of risk management and internal control to effectively manage risk across the business in line with regulatory and statutory requirements.

The Risk Management Committee assists the Board in overseeing the implementation of the risk management framework. Currently, the committee comprises five non-executive directors, at least one of whom is a member of the Audit Committee. The chairman of the committee is an independent non-executive director who is not the chairman of the Board. Committee members are appointed based on their qualifications and experience to ensure that the committee can adequately discharge its duties.

The Board is further assisted by the Investment and Capital Committee, which oversees the implementation and monitoring of the investment strategy and Capital Management Policy approved by the Board, including monitoring the effectiveness of the investment process in achieving optimum return relative to risk.

The Executive Risk Committee and Divisional Risk committees are management committees that assist the CEO with the oversight of risk management activities across the business to ensure material risks are managed in line with the approach defined in the risk management strategy and the risk appetite set by the Board.

Medibank has adopted a three lines of defence approach to define risk management roles, responsibilities and accountability.

First line: Management is accountable for identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing material risks in the business. They are responsible for decision making and the execution of business activities, whilst managing risk to ensure it is in line with the Board's risk appetite and strategy.

Second line: The enterprise risk and compliance functions provide objective advice and challenge to the first line on risk and control activities and provide assurance and guidance on the design and implementation of appropriate risk management activities.

Third line: The internal audit function provides independent assurance to the Audit Committee and the Board on the adequacy and effectiveness of the risk management framework, financial reporting processes and internal control and compliance systems operating in the first and second line.

This corporate governance statement is accurate and up to date as at 22 August 2019 and has been approved by the Board.