

# The Queensland Pharmacy Business Ownership Council & Queensland Health

## Update on the *Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2024*

Tuesday 1 July 2025 7pm



**Queensland**  
Government





# Overview of the Council

**Cameron Foote**

Chair

Pharmacy business  
owner and registered  
pharmacist

**Inma Beaumont**

Deputy Chair

Chartered certified  
account

**Emma Conway**

Member

Registered pharmacist

**Amy Ford**

Member

Pharmacy business  
owner and registered  
pharmacist

**Adam Rodger**

Member

Pharmacy business  
owner and registered  
pharmacist

**Brett Simmonds**

Member

Registered pharmacist

**Adela Ting Wei Tsang**

Member

Registered pharmacist

**Shana Valentine**

Member

Pharmacy business  
owner and registered  
pharmacist

**Fiona Watson**

Member

Pharmacy business  
owner and registered  
pharmacist

**Vassillis (Lucky)  
Zeniou**

Member

Registered pharmacist

Scan the QR code to learn more about  
Council members



## Strategic Plan 2025-2029

*The Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2024 (Act)* ensures that pharmacy businesses are owned by pharmacists, with limited exceptions, recognising their medicines expertise, public trust and professional obligations to prioritise the safe and competent provision of pharmacy services over commercial interests.

The Queensland Pharmacy Business Ownership Council (Council) is a statutory body established under the Act responsible for ensuring the integrity of pharmacy business ownership.

### Vision

A trusted and transparent regulator ensuring pharmacy businesses deliver safe, high-quality care to Queenslanders.



### Purpose

To establish and maintain a modern and effective licensing framework for pharmacy businesses to promote the professional, safe and competent delivery of pharmacy services.



### Our commitments

We respect, protect and promote human rights in everything we do.

We value and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and culture in all we do.



### Strategic opportunities

- Improving Queenslanders' safety by ensuring pharmacy business owners meet their regulatory obligations under the Act.
- Applying learnings from other regulators to establish best practice systems and processes.
- Becoming a trusted regulator in the pharmacy profession through proactive stakeholder engagement and a commitment to transparency.
- Establishing a reputation as an employer of choice recognised for our positive, inclusive and supportive workplace culture.

The Council supports the Queensland Government's objectives for the community:



Health services when you need them.



A better lifestyle through a stronger economy.

### Strategic risks

- Unable to meet stakeholder expectations and build a reputation as a fair, transparent regulator while in our establishment phase.
- Inadequate resourcing to regulate effectively in a complex and evolving regulatory environment.
- The delivery of ineffective change management strategies and communications to support the introduction of the Act and associated requirements.
- Unable to attract, develop and retain skilled and engaged staff to fulfil our role and responsibilities.



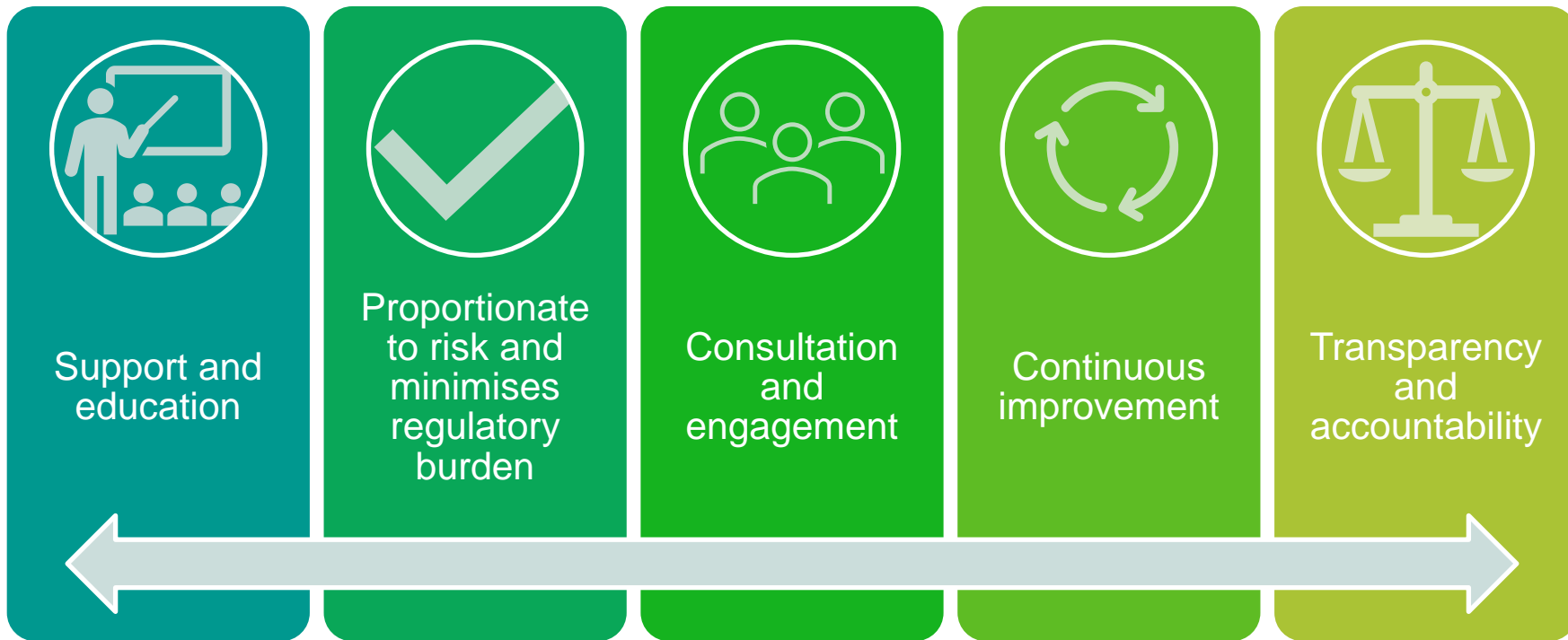
**Queensland  
Government**

Scan the QR code to  
view the Strategic Plan



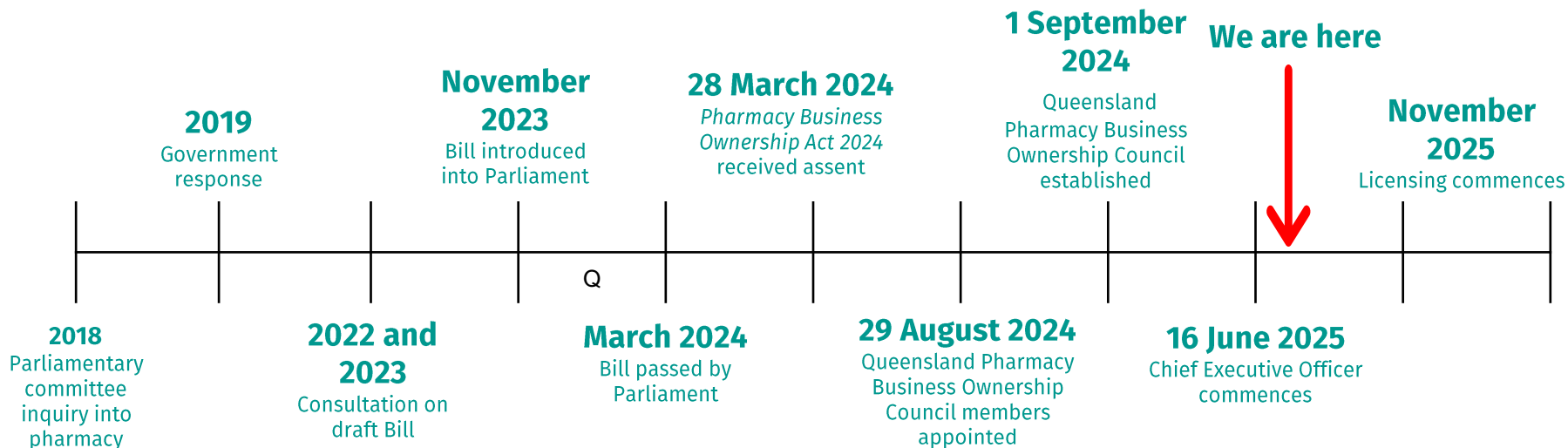


# Chief Executive Officer – Natalie Wakefield





# Pharmacy Business Ownership Act 2024



The remainder of the Act (including the licensing framework) is expected to commence in November 2025. The commencement date will be fixed later in the year by Governor in Council and is subject to Government processes.



## Objectives

Repeal and replace  
2001 Act

Establish the  
Queensland  
Pharmacy Business  
Ownership Council

Create a licensing  
framework

Clarify who may own  
a pharmacy

Provide for material  
interest holders

Retain existing limits  
on ownership



# Queensland Pharmacy Business Ownership Council



Responsible for regulating pharmacy business ownership



A statutory body, independent of Queensland Health



Must have at least 5 members, appointed by Governor in Council, on the Minister's recommendation



Makes licensing decisions under the new Act



Has legislative powers to enforce compliance



# What is a pharmacy business?

A business will be a pharmacy business for the purposes of the Act if it provides pharmacy services in Queensland, and those pharmacy services include either:

- **compounding** medicines for sale to the public, or
- **dispensing** medicines to the public, by or under the supervision of a practising pharmacist.

Health Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2025





## Who is eligible to own a pharmacy?

A practising pharmacist

A corporation – all directors and shareholders are practising pharmacists

A corporation – all directors and shareholders are practising pharmacists or close adult relatives; majority of shares and all voting shares held by pharmacists

Friendly societies

Mater

*Practising pharmacist* means a pharmacist registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law to practise in the pharmacy profession with general registration.

*Close adult relative*, of a practising pharmacist, means a spouse or child of the pharmacist who is an adult.

# What is a material interest and who can hold?

- The interest of a shareholder
- The interest of a beneficiary of a trust
- Another interest in the business, other than an interest of an owner, where the person is entitled to receive consideration that varies according to the profits or taking of the business.



Practising  
pharmacists



Close adult relative  
of a practising  
pharmacist

# PBO Regulation - standards for premises and fees

## What are authorised premises?

Premises are authorised premises if the premises:

- are not located in, or directly accessible from, a supermarket, and
- meet the standards prescribed by regulation.

A supermarket means premises used primarily for selling a range of food, beverages, groceries and other domestic goods.



### Standards for premises

- Appropriately lit, temperature controlled and ventilated
- Organised and uncluttered
- Clean and hygienic
- Dispensary
- Consultation area
- Security



### Fees

- Licence fee 377.35 fee units = \$414
- Application fees - tiered fee structure
- Proposed application fee for new licences
  - 2075.45 fee units (tier 1) = \$2,275
  - 2358.50 fee units (tier 2) = \$2,585
  - 3018.85 fee units (tier 3) = \$3,309
- Proposed application fee for renewal (annual)
  - 1603.75 fee units (tier 1) = \$1,758
  - 1792.45 fee units (tier 2) = \$1,965
  - 2358.50 fee units (tier 3) = \$2,585
- Other fees – adding an incoming party, changing detail stated in business licence, fee for inspecting premises etc.



Scan QR code to see  
consultation draft of  
PBO Regulation



# Section 22 Particular activities relating to licensed pharmacy business prohibited

A person, other than the owner of a pharmacy business, must not purport to do any of the following -



Control how pharmacy services involving medicines are provided to public



Restrict the types of medicines or health service provided



Require medicine to be bought from a particular supplier



Impose a sales target in relation to a particular medicine

Does not apply to:



An employee



Opening hours, advertising or other marketing activities, IT systems, staff training and staff uniforms.

- Provision is void
- Maximum penalty to the person – 200 penalty units
- Owner - fit and proper person



# When to apply for a licence and other application considerations



Scan the QR code to go to the Act

New pharmacy business

Existing pharmacy business

Transitional provisions (part 14)

Requests for further information/inspection of premises

Fit and proper (section 72)

Register



# Duty exemption

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## Administrative arrangement—duty exemption for pharmacy businesses complying with the Pharmacy Business Ownership Act

Public Ruling DA000.19.1

### Issued

24 October 2024

A public ruling, when issued, is the published view of the Commissioner of State Revenue (the Commissioner) on the particular topic to which it relates. It therefore replaces and overrides any existing private rulings, memoranda, manuals and advice



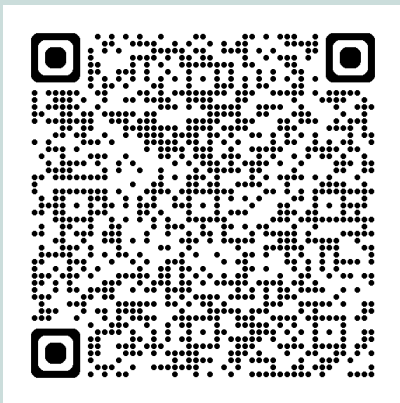
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## Further information

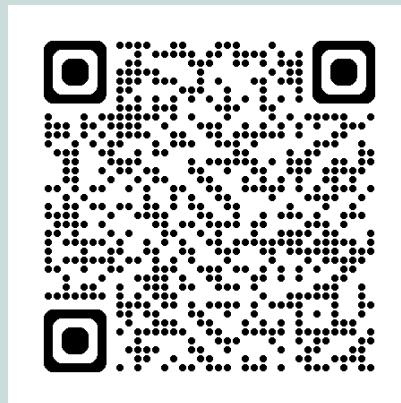
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