

Our Ref: 1146532
Your Ref: AA1000636

11 May 2023

By Email Only
Attention: Bethany White
Australian Competition & Consumer
Commission
23 Marcus Clarke Street
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ms White

Health Partners Limited – Application for authorisation AA1000636

As you are aware, we act for Health Partners Limited (**Applicant**) in respect of the above matter (**Application**).

We refer to your email of 10 May 2023 and the further questions raised by the ACCC in respect of the Application.

1. Authorisation to give effect to agreements

We confirm that the Applicant is seeking authorisation to enter into *and* give effect to agreements containing the provisions annexed to our correspondence of 27 April 2023.

2. Proposed locations and number of Partner Practices

The ACCC has requested further information from the Applicant regarding the likely number and location of Partner Practices the Applicant intends to enter into agreements with pursuant to any authorisation.

The Applicant's intention is to enter into agreements with less than ten dental practices outside the Adelaide metropolitan area. The objective is to provide the Applicant's members with a broad coverage of service across major regional towns and areas.

Adelaide
Brisbane
Canberra
Darwin
Hobart
Melbourne
Norwest
Perth
Sydney

As previously notified, all Partner Practices will be located in the state of South Australia. Partner Practices will also be located at least 20kms away from any Applicant Practices and other Partner Practices.

The Applicant is yet to engage with further potential Partner Practices while awaiting the resolution of the Application.

As a point of comparison, the Applicant already operates a similar scheme in respect of physiotherapy practices. As the Applicant does not operate its own physiotherapy practices, this conduct is not the subject of a similar authorisation, and its partner physiotherapy practices include locations in Adelaide. Outside of suburban Adelaide, the Applicant has agreements in place with ten physiotherapy practices, which are located in Stirling, Mt Barker, McLaren Vale, Strathalbyn, Mt Gambier, Mannum, Gawler, Nuriootpa, and Victor Harbor.

If you have any questions in respect of the above, please feel free to contact us.

Kind regards



Peter Campbell
Partner
HWL Ebsworth Lawyers

