

Peter Carver - Director, Service and Workforce Planning, Department of Human Service Victoria

Worked in the Public Sector for over 20 years in a number of government agencies and a range of roles, moving into the human service portfolio in 1990. In late 2000 was appointed to take on the role as Director, Service and Workforce Planning. This was a new function in the Department aimed at rebuilding the capacity to respond to and develop a workforce planning and policy capacity for health services, to strengthen the Department's strategic service planning capability across all areas of human services and to coordinate the overall human service planning framework for Victoria's publicly funded health and other human services.

Although a new function and still in development, some of the key deliverables managed since that time that have been the first Nurse Recruitment campaign in 2000, establishment of the Nurse Practitioner model in Victoria, development of a state wide program to recruit GPs to rural Victoria, programs to support placing advanced medical specialists in rural hospitals and a range of funding programs to support continuing education for allied health professionals, workforce forecasts and plans for nursing, child protection, mental health and disability services. Peter is Victoria's representative on the Australian Health Workforce Officials Committee, chairs the national Jurisdictional Workforce Planners Group and sits on the Victorian higher Education Committee.

On the service planning side, other achievements included a whole of portfolio strategy for services to people with an acquired brain injury, a rural videophone pharmacy program and coordination program spanning cross government agencies to improve access and mobility in rural locations. Strengthening the Department's service planning capacity has also been a major focus with the development of a service supply and demand forecasts and models for acute health services, child protection, disability services, ambulance service mental health, community health and homelessness and an integrated online spatially based service planning tool.