



PRESS RELEASE

Reference: Member participation in the AGMs
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Press Release 6 of 2017: Council for Medical Schemes encourages members to make their voices heard in their medical scheme's Annual General Meeting

The Council for Medical Schemes (CMS), regulator of the medical schemes industry would like to once again encourage members of medical schemes to make their voices heard by participating in their medical scheme's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

According to the acting Chief Executive & Registrar for the CMS, participation in the scheme's AGM is a right afforded members of the medical schemes in terms of the Medical Schemes Act, No. 131 of 1998. "It is important that members should take active participation in the affairs of their schemes, and use this opportunity to make their voices heard. By so doing, members can influence the course taken by schemes on issues affecting their continued access to quality healthcare. It is the right thing to do." concluded the Acting Registrar.

The AGM

Medical schemes generally issue a notice to their members regarding the details of the AGM. The notice normally contains important information such as the date of the meeting, the agenda for the meeting i.e. list of issues to be discussed, as well as the relevant supporting documents relating to the issues that will be discussed at the AGM. The agenda for the AGM usually covers the following:

- a presentation on the Annual Financial Statements;
- the appointment of external auditors;

- the election of persons to serve on the Board of Trustees (where applicable);
- a report from the Principal Officer (from an operational perspective) and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees (from an oversight perspective); and
- other matters e.g. motions raised by members in writing prior to the meeting, member related concerns about the affairs of the scheme, etc.

Members of medical schemes are encouraged to carefully read beforehand, the information contained in the AGM information pack in order to get an understanding of the priorities of the scheme. It is important for members to familiarise themselves with the rules of their medical scheme as they give an indication of how the AGM is conducted. The scheme rules are available from the websites of the various medical schemes, alternatively members can request a copy of the rules directly from the medical scheme prior to the AGM.

Information regarding the AGM dates for the various medical schemes is published on the CMS [website](#). For more updates, like the CMS' [Facebook page](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#).

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