



# NMHS Board

## Communiqué

*This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the NMHS Board meeting held on 28 May 2021 in the Noongar Season of Djeran at King Edward Memorial Hospital.*

*Djeran season sees the start of the cooler weather. During this period fishing continued and bulbs and seeds were collected for food.*



### Undiagnosed Diseases Program (UDP)

The Board received an inspiring presentation on the Undiagnosed Diseases Program within the Women's Health, Mental Health and Genetics Directorate, WNHS. It is a groundbreaking initiative that has made significant differences to the lives of young children, including Aboriginal children, in WA, often through repurposing existing low-cost drugs. Strong collaborations with the World Health Organization and regional leaders has been a key aspect of this program.

### Clinical area Tours

Board members toured three clinical areas in KEMH with WNHS Executive. We could see how busy the clinics and wards were and we thank all staff for your sharing and feedback. The Board is keen to work with the WNHS Executive Team to address feedback around staff shortage, leave and rostering to support the clinical workforce and to engage and retain young graduates and clinicians.

### NMHS Climate and Sustainability Program

The Board received an update on the NMHS Climate and Sustainability Program and to learn that staff have been engaged to contribute through a staff forum as well as a NMHS-wide survey. Having the meeting in KEMH, we reflected on the opportunity to make the new Women's and Newborns Hospital a green and sustainable one.

### Board Committee Updates:

The Board reviewed the minutes of its Committees and were provided with a precis from each Chair as follows:

- People, Engagement and Culture Committee highlighted the ongoing work in the diversity space and the Minister for Health Your Voice in Health survey. It received a presentation from the WNHS Next 100 Program, which provided the breadth of people, engagement and culture activities taking place in WNHS.
- Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee – The recent Emergency Department death of a child at PCH has





**Clinical Prof David Forbes AM**  
**Board Chair**  
**NMHS**

provided us with an opportunity to review NMHS processes and procedures. With the NMHS Executive we are reviewing the RCA recommendations from CAHS to better understand the issues and their implications for NMHS. Some of you may have heard that the Osborne Park Kitchen is undergoing some refurbishments and changes to processes and menu following a recent audit. The Board supports these activities and looks forward to the kitchen returning to its usual functions as soon as practicable.

- Finance Committee received presentations on WNHS activity numbers and financial position, as well as an update from the Department of Health on FY21/22 budget reforms.
- Audit & Risk Committee will meet on 9 June 2021.

#### **Board Chair and Chief Executive update:**

The Board Chair and Chief Executive provided updates which included the discussion of a number of topics including –

- COVID-19 – Testing and Vaccination Clinics
- Addressing workforce shortage in face of increased activity
- Ensuring the staff in our Emergency Departments feel supported and have adequate clinical supervision

The next regular meeting of the NMHS Board is scheduled for Friday 25 June 2021 and will be held at SCGH.

