



NMHS Board Communiqué

February 2026

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 6 February 2026 at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre in the Noongar Season of Bunuru.



Bunuru (second summer / Season of Adolescence) is the hottest time of the year in Noongar boodja (land/country) with little to no rain, a glorious abundance of sunlight and exceptional heat.

Board members present

Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick, Board Chair
Anthony Evans, Deputy Board Chair
Jahna Cedar OAM
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman
Renae Farmer
Angela Komninos
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Dr Ian Rogers
Rebecca Strom

Approvals and endorsements

- Statement of Intent 2025/26 Q2 Report
- NMHS Authorisations and Delegations Schedule

Visits and engagement

- Short Notice Assessment for Accreditation Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group

Our Community and Our People: embedding our values

Reflections on consumer feedback and insights, as they relate to the NMHS values and patient-centred care, are a regular focus for the Board. This month the Board heard stories from consumers who shared their experiences of Joondalup Health Campus Emergency Department. The Board acknowledged the steps taken to expand dietary options to meet nutritional needs of patients, and noted appreciation for the professionalism and care provided by the treating team.

Presentations to the Board

The Board welcomed the Director General who briefed members on the work underway across the WA health system to ensure Western Australian patients and communities continue to have access to safe and high-quality health care. Priorities included winter planning, progress of capital and infrastructure projects, and investment in digital capability to modernise and improve delivery of care.

The Board also received a briefing from the Hon Stephen Dawson, Minister for Science and Innovation; Medical Research, who outlined investment opportunities and programs to strengthen research and innovation capacity to improve diagnosis, treatment, system efficiency and long-term health outcomes for Western Australians.

The Board formally recognised Dr Anita Bourke, Professor Shirley Jansen and Dr Barry Lewis, who received 2026 Australia Day Honours.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

Our updates and considerations focussed on review of current issues and reports.

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Outcomes from recent key stakeholder meetings
- Evaluation of Board governance effectiveness
- Continuing professional development

Events and achievements

- Appointment of the inaugural Consumer Representative to the Board Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee



L to R: Mrs Jenny Bedford, Board Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee Consumer Representative; Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick, NMHS Board Chair; Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon, Chair, Board Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee.



Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick
BOARD CHAIR, NMHS

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[Our Board and communiques](#)



[Minister for Health's Statement of Expectations](#)
[NMHS's Statement of Intent](#)

Next Board meeting

Friday, 6 March 2026
Community Mental Health, Mirrabooka

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Providing accessible, safe, high-quality care, which is delivered in a sustainable and personalised way
- Progress of several major capital works projects at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, including expansion of the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit
- Progress of maintenance and minor building works under the State Government's targeted Health Asset Maintenance Fund
- Highlights, risks, and areas of focus from each of the operational areas

Board Committee updates

The minutes and a summary from each of our Board Committee meetings were provided by the respective Chairs.

Audit and Risk Committee

No meeting held in February.

Finance Committee

The Committee received its regular update on performance and activity from the Women and Newborn Health Service, as well as a budget update from the Strategy and Transformation Directorate.

In addition, the status of priority procurements and contracts, and major capital works were noted.

Reports and discussions, focussed on performance, activity, budget and staffing trends, including strategies to ensure financial sustainability were considered.

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

No meeting held in February.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee received a presentation from Bethesda Palliative Care Services, which contractually provides multi-disciplinary care, including allied health, to NMHS patients with life-limiting illness.

The Committee also heard about safety and quality performance, quality improvement and consumer engagement initiatives for Pharmacy services.

In addition, Mental Health Service Dental Health Services provided an update on safety and quality performance

The monthly consumer experience, safety and quality performance and trends were reviewed, with focus on activities related to continuous improvement, quality assurance and embedding a safety culture.