



NMHS Board Communiqué

March 2026

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 6 March 2026 at Mirrabooka Community Mental Health, Mirrabooka, 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
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman
Renaë Farmer
Angela Komninos
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Dr Ian Rogers
Rebecca Strom

Apologies

Jahna Cedar OAM

Approvals and endorsements

- Commission Service Agreement 2025/26
- NMHS Research and Innovation Strategy 2026 to 2030
- Board People, Culture and Sustainability Committee Terms of Reference

Visits and engagement

- Mirrabooka Community Clinic

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 Dental Health Services. The Board reflected on the management of patient expectations and the principles of respectful and professional feedback in response to concerns raised, and acknowledged the quality of care provided by the Coolbellup Clinic Dental team.

Presentations to the Board

The Board was briefed on the NMHS Transformation plan, which sets out the programs, milestones and delivery timelines for the year ahead ensuring alignment to the NMHS Strategic Plan and broader WA health system priorities, as well as initiatives under the 2026 NMHS Winter Plan.

The Board received an update on review of the organisation's operating model, which is being refreshed to support strategy execution, increase operational performance and efficiency, and respond to the rapidly changing healthcare landscape

The Board considered reports on legal risk and exposure, and compliance and assurance across corporate and clinical portfolios, and noted a series of reports outlining progress of major infrastructure and capital works projects as well as the status of maintenance and minor building works under the State Government's targeted Health Asset Maintenance Fund

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
- Board engagement opportunities
- Continuing professional development

Events and achievements

- Danjoo Yacker Series event – International Women’s Day



L to R: Jeffrey Williams, Executive Director, Women and Newborn Health Service; Sandra Harben, Noongar Elder; Dr Daniela Vecchio, Head of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Fiona Stanley Hospital and 2026 Australian of the Year; Angela Komminos, NMHS Board member; Robert Toms, NMHS Chief Executive.



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

Thursday, 2 April 2026
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Nedlands

Chief Executive

This month’s report included updates on:

- Providing equitable, accessible, safe, and high-quality care, which is delivered in a sustainable and personalised way
- 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 Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group.

In addition, the NMHS annual National Hospital Cost Data Collection, which informs the national funding model for healthcare, were reviewed.

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

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

The meeting’s focus was Research and Innovation.

The Committee received a briefing from Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group, and Nursing and Midwifery Services about culture and engagement activities underway across the services. In addition, the progress of initiatives to transform the organisation and make ‘NMHS the best place to work’ were outlined.

Performance and compliance reports for work health and safety, staff wellbeing, as well as operational matters were also reviewed.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee welcomed the Consumer Representative to her first meeting, acknowledging the milestone and valuable contribution she would bring to strengthening our consumer-centred approach.

The Committee considered a new Australian Patient Safety Culture Survey tool, which has been adapted for the Australian context from a globally recognised survey.

In addition, the Committee reviewed the organisation’s healthcare performance in several recently published internal and external reports, and discussed accreditation of clinical services against the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care Standards

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