



NMHS Board Communiqué

May 2024

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 3 May 2024 at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital in the Noongar Season of Djeran.



Djeran sees a break in the really hot weather, being marked by cooler nights, dewy mornings and the falling of leaves.

Board members present

Clin Prof David Forbes AM, Board Chair
Jahna Cedar OAM
Angela Edwards
Tony Evans
Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick
Angela Komninos
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Rebecca Strom, Deputy Board Chair
Steve Toutountzis

Approvals and endorsements

- NMHS Board People, Engagement and Culture Committee Charter and Terms of Reference
- Mental Health Commission Service Agreement 2023/24
- NMHS Statement of Intent 2023/24 quarter 3 report

Events and achievements

- Innovation show case with the Hon Stephen Dawson MLC

Welcome

We welcomed new Board member, Angela Komninos, who brings legal expertise to the NMHS Board.

Our Community and Our People: embedding our values

Reflections on consumer feedback, as they relate to NMHS's values, are a monthly focus for the Board. The stories offer valuable insights to help us understand the needs and concerns of our community and provide learning opportunities to improve and deliver excellent health care.

The Board heard about a consumer experience, which highlighted the importance of informed consent and challenges of balancing the benefits of medical treatment with potential side effects. In response the Board reflected on potential initiatives to improve patient education and service delivery. Separately, the Board acknowledged positive feedback about person-centred care provided by Emergency Department nursing staff.

Presentations to the Board

The Medical Director of the WA Virtual Emergency Department (WAVED) and Lead of System Flow and Reform briefed the Board on the WAVED service, which was launched in September 2023. Members heard how a multi-disciplinary team works alongside St John Ambulance to deliver emergency care virtually, where safe and appropriate to do so, and connect patients with alternate clinically appropriate care options. The service, which has been piloting models of care for older adults living in residential aged care homes, has recently been expanded to include patients with mental health conditions. The Board acknowledged the Geriatric Acute and Rehabilitation Medicine team for its strong commitment to revolutionising the way care is provided to our elderly population to ensure the best outcomes.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Congratulations and farewell to the NMHS Chief Executive who has been appointed the new Director General of Health
- The Ministerial Taskforce on Ambulance Ramping and progress of NMHS Hospital Emergency Access Response (HEART) Program initiatives



Visits and engagement

- Breast Centre
- Ward G66 Neurovascular Neuro-intervention Unit



2024 Western Australia Nursing and Midwifery Excellence in Service Award finalists



Clinical Professor David Forbes AM
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, 3 May 2024

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
Nedlands

- March Health Service Performance Report

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Visit to Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital by the Hon Stephen Dawson, Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy
- Progress and planned launch of the NMHS Strategic Plan 2024 to 2027
- Engagement activities with local, State, and national representatives as well as sites and services
- Activity and performance, including ongoing high demand for Emergency Department services
- Highlights, risks, and areas of focus from each of the operational areas

Board Committee updates

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

Audit and Risk Committee

No meeting held in April.

Finance Committee

The Committee received a presentation from Mental Health Public Health Dental Services about performance and activity, as well as updates on continuous improvement initiatives being delivered by the Strategy and Transformation Team.

The Committee considered reports on performance, activity, budget and staffing trends, including strategies to ensure financial sustainability. In addition, Climate and sustainability activities were reviewed.

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

The focus of the meeting was on work health and safety and included briefings on changes to WA workers' compensation laws and conversion of public health system senior medical practitioners to permanent employment under Commissioner's Instruction 42.

The Committee received a presentation on engagement, culture and wellbeing activities from Mental Health Public Health Dental Services and progress of initiatives to make NMHS the Best Place to Work.

Reports about work health and safety compliance, industrial matters, the status of strategic risks were also reviewed.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee heard from the Midwifery Group Practice, which provides ante- and post-natal care for at-risk women. The Committee considered the results of several diagnostic studies designed to contribute to practice improvements and improve health outcomes for patients.

The monthly consumer experience, safety and quality performance and trends, with focus on activities to improve patient safety, were also reviewed.