



Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service

NMHS Board Communiqué

November 2024

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 1 November 2024 at Graylands Campus in the Noongar Season of Kambarang.



Kambarang brings longer and warmer days and decreasing rain. It is wildflower season with an abundance of colours and flowers in bloom.

Board members present

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

Approvals and endorsements

- NMHS Strategic Asset Plan 2024 to 2034
- NMHS Statement of Intent 2024/25 quarter 1 report

Events and achievements

- NMHS staff achievement Going the Extra Mile Awards

Visits and engagement

- State Forensics Mental Health Service
- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Emergency Department
- BreastScreen WA Pink Ribbon Breakfast
- Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group Research Week

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 of our community and provide learning opportunities to make our services better and safer, to deliver excellent health care.

This month, the Board heard from a consumer who voiced concerns about their experience of treatment and support by Mental Health Services treatment during a crisis. In recognising the complexities and challenges of providing care for persons with mental health conditions, the Board appreciated the time and compassion shown by staff in their response to the complaint.

In addition, the Board acknowledged the high-quality care provided to an older adult with mental health problems by the multidisciplinary team at Osborne Lodge.

Presentations to the Board

The Board welcomed representatives from the Strategy and Transformation directorate who worked with members to progress a Board stakeholder map. The focus of the second session was on analysing and clarifying key stakeholder relationships that will assist the Board to understand the needs of the organisation and support delivery of its strategic objectives and initiatives, as well as those of the broader WA health system.

In addition, the Board received a presentation from the Executive Director of Mental Health Public Health Dental Services who provided an overview of postgraduate (vocational) training in psychiatry for the State of Western Australian. The briefing included discussions about expanding training pathways and reducing barriers to increase the number of trainee positions and placements to address the shortage of psychiatrists and improve the workforce pipeline.

The Board was also delighted to personally congratulate Sister Sue Morey, who received the 2024 WA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Lifetime Achievement Honour in recognition of her enduring dedication to patients with respiratory conditions.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Planning for the annual evaluation of the Board's corporate governance performance
- WA health system priorities





NMHS Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Board Chair Award (L-R) Ms Rebecca Strom, NMHS Board Chair and Helen Anderson, Volunteer Educator for the Volunteer Falls Inpatient Education Program at Osborne Park Hospital.



NMHS Going the Extra Mile (GEM) Awards (Back L-R) Mr Robert Pulsford, Acting Chief Executive; Ms Rebecca Strom, NMHS Board Chair with the winners of the NMHS GEM Awards.

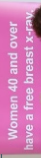


Rebecca Strom
BOARD CHAIR, NMHS

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Our Board and communications
Minister for Health's Statement of Expectations

NMHS's Statement of Intent



Next Board meeting

Friday, 6 December 2024
Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre, Nedlands

- September Health Service Performance Report

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Continued high demand for emergency services across the WA health system
- Commencement of the Nurse/Midwife to patient ratios across eight wards at Sir Charles Gairdner and Osborne Park Hospitals
- Initiatives to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal people
- The information and communications technology operating model
- 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 October.

Finance Committee

The Committee received its regular update on performance and activity from the Women and Newborn Health Service (WNHS) and a briefing on the updated annual, ten-year Strategic Asset Plan.

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

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

This month's focus area was Work Health and Safety.

The Committee received a briefing from the Executive Director of WNHS about culture and engagement activities underway across the service. In addition, key changes to workers' compensation laws and ongoing work to address work health and safety legislative reform were outlined.

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

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee welcomed the Co-Director of the State Forensics Mental Health Service who provided an overview of the service with focus on safety and quality.

The Committee also 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



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

BreastScreen WA 2024 Pink Ribbon Breakfast
L-R: Jeffrey Williams, Executive Director Women and Newborn Health Service (WNHS); Aunty Dot (Dorothy) Begshaw, Respected Noongar Elder; Ms Emily Hamilton M.A. Member for



