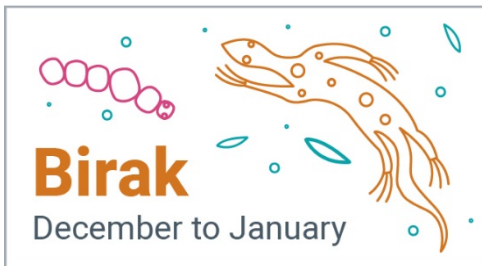




NMHS Board Communiqué

December 2024

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 6 December 2024 at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre in the Noongar Season of Birak.



Birak is the first summer (season of the young), which sees the rain ease and the warm weather really start to take hold. The afternoons are cooled by sea breeze from the south-west: traditionally this was the fire season.

Board members present

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

Events and achievements

- WA Health Excellence Awards
 - Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Nitrous Oxide Infrastructure Decommissioning team
 - 24/7 WA Statewide Telestroke Service
 - Staff with Disability and Allies Network

Visits and engagement

- WA Eating Disorders Services opening
- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital kitchens
- Clinical Coding
- Staff Christmas / end of year events

Welcome

The Board welcomed the new Chief Executive, Robert Toms, who shared his leadership vision, and farewelled outgoing A/Chief Executive Robert Pulsford.

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 expressed concerns over perceived delays to surgery for breast cancer. In noting clinical care provided was appropriate, the Board considered aspects of care coordination and communication which could contribute to an improved overall experience.

In addition, the Board acknowledged the support and compassion of the MRI team in Radiology when treating a patient with a long-term health condition.

Presentations to the Board

The Board welcomed the Chair and Manager from the Voluntary Assisted Dying Board for a thought-provoking discussion about provision of voluntary assisted dying from the perspective of people-centred care and end of life preferences. The briefing also reflected on ways the organisation could support individuals wishing to explore options available to them through its process and practices.

The Board received a progress update on the new contract with Ramsay Health Care, which provides services at Joondalup Health Campus through a public private partnership. The contract also includes investment to deliver additional elective surgeries and procedures, which will reduce elective surgery wait times.

In addition, the Board received an informative and useful presentation from the WA Centre for Rural Health, University of Western Australia, whose focus is improving rural, remote, and Aboriginal health through research, education, and training. The researchers spoke about their research into high-performing cancer services for Aboriginal people highlighting evidence-based factors supporting retention of Aboriginal health professionals in the health workforce, and need to establish culturally safe Aboriginal Navigator roles to assist Aboriginal patients and carers during their cancer journeys.





Opening of WA Eating Disorders Service
(L-R): Dr Theresa Marshall, Executive Director Mental Health Public Health Dental Services; Robert Toms, NMHS Chief Executive; Dr Fi Cartwright, Director WA Eating Disorders Service; Ms Rebecca Strom, NMHS Board Chair; Ian Sheldrake, Executive Director, Strategy and Transformation.



OPH Staff Christmas event (L-R): Mrs Jahna Cedar, Board member; Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group.



Graylands Hospital Staff Christmas event (L-R): Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick, Deputy Board Chair; Gino Cirillo, Director Dental Health Services



Rebecca Strom
BOARD CHAIR, NMHS



NMHS.BoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au



Our Board and communiques



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

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Key staff appointments and changes
- WA health system priorities
- October Health Service Performance Report

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Recognition of staff excellence and innovation
- State-wide priorities to improve patient flow
- Publication of two key NMHS strategies
- Launch of the WA Early Childhood Dental Program
- 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

The Committee received advice from Health Support Services about initiatives to strengthen cyber security and resilience as well as an update on implementation of NMHS's preferred information communication technology operating model.

In addition, the Committee considered NMHS's Digital Strategy and received progress updates on priority capital projects.

Reports on legislative and regulatory compliance, assurance, and risk obligations, as well as the progress of internal and external audits were also tabled.

Finance Committee

The Committee received its regular update on performance and activity from the Mental Health Public Health and Dental Services directorate. In addition, it received advice about the financial implications of new workers' compensation laws and regulations.

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 November.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee received a presentation from the Abortion Care Services, which has been instrumental in improving healthcare for women following recent legislative reform, and a safety and quality update by the Women and Newborn Health Service.

In addition, the Committee considered accreditation and compliance with 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/initiatives to support continuous improvement, quality assurance and embedding a safety culture.

