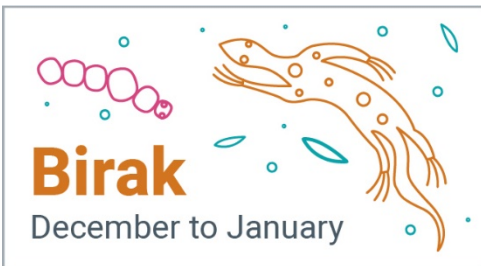




NMHS Board Communiqué

December 2023

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 8 December 2023 at King Edward Memorial Hospital 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

Clin Prof David Forbes AM, Board Chair
Ms Rebecca Strom, Deputy Board Chair
Mr Tony Evans
Ms Karen Gullick
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Prof Emer Paul Norman AM
Mr Steve Toutountzis

Events and achievements

- NMHS Going the Extra Mile Awards
- Lucy Stopher, Nurse of the year award, Australian New Zealand Society for Vascular Nurses / Surgery
- NMHS HEART Program team, WA Health Excellence Director General's and Excellence in Safety and Quality award
- Dr David Speers, WA Health Excellence Minister for Health Award
- NMHS Renal Medicine and Transplant Team, WA Health Excellence Rural and Remote Health Care Award

Visits and engagement



Our Community and Our People: embedding our values

Reflections on consumer and staff feedback are a monthly focus for the Board, in addition to reflecting on NMHS's values. The stories offer valuable insights to help us understand the needs of consumers and their concerns, providing learning opportunities to improve and deliver excellent health care.

The Board considered stories from consumers who shared their experience of care by the Women and Newborn Health Service. The Board acknowledged the sensitive way in which a complaint was handled, since it displayed the organisation's values of care, respect, and integrity. The Board also appreciated the expert care and compassion provided by the King Edward Memorial Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit multi-disciplinary team to a family and their newborn.

Presentations to the Board

The Board received an in-depth review from the Area Director Business Information and Performance, Executive Director Consumer Experience and Clinical Excellence and Chief Finance Officer on the NMHS's Health Service Performance Report's suite of indicators, with focus on those indicators that are persistently challenging for NMHS. The presentation looked at drivers and enablers that influence outcomes as well as actions to improve performance.

The team from the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation was also welcomed and provided an update on the revised WA State Government's Intellectual Property Policy, which was released in May. The Board learned about the framework and implementation toolkit, which supports public sector agencies, including the WA health system, to create, manage and protect intellectual property.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- The year in review, including achievements and events that defined 2023
- Strategic priorities and direction for 2024
- November Health Service Performance Report

Chief Executive

- Site and Service staff Christmas / end of year events
- Women and Newborn Health Service Executive team



Clinical Professor David Forbes AM

BOARD CHAIR, NMHS

NMHS.BoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au

Next Board meeting
 Friday, 2 February 2024
 QEII Medical Centre
 Nedlands

This month's report included updates on:

- Staff achievements including the NMHS Going the Extra Mile awards on 16 November, and WA Health Excellence awards on 7 December 2023. The awards demonstrate the strong commitment by our staff to improving the lives of our patients and quality of healthcare.
- Engagement activities with local, State, and national representatives as well as sites and services
- Activity and performance
- 2024/25 budget submissions
- 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

The Committee received a presentation on medico-legal services and updates on legislative and regulatory compliance obligations, as well as progress of internal and external audits.

In addition, reports were tabled about work health and safety compliance, industrial matters, the status of strategic risks, and climate and sustainability.

Finance Committee

The Committee received an update on performance and activity by the Mental Health, Public Health Dental Services, as well as progress on continuous improvement initiatives being delivered by the Business and Performance teams.

In addition, reports and discussions focussed on performance, activity, budget and staffing trends, including strategies to ensure financial sustainability, as well as climate and sustainability initiatives.

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

No meeting held in November.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee heard from the Cancer Network WA, which is a State-wide service that coordinates care for public patients throughout their cancer journey. In addition, members received an update on activities to increase consumer participation and engagement.

Safety and quality performance reports, including clinical incidents and consumer experience were also considered.



L-R: Dr Shirley Bowen, NMHS Chief Executive; Dr David Speers, recipient of the WA Health Excellence Minister for Health Award; and Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group.



L-R: Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group; Dr Anoushka Krishnan (Royal Perth Hospital); Dr Wai Lim (Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, SCGH); Calina Ting (SCGH); and Dr Shirley Bowen, NMHS Chief Executive; who shared the WA Health Excellence Rural and Remote Health Care Award for facilitating kidney transplantation for Aboriginal Australians.



L-R: Emma Davies; Holly Landers; Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group; Dr Shirley Bowen, NMHS Chief Executive; Sarah Warren; Fiona Waller; Pierra O'Brien; and Lil Johns, recipients of the WA Health Excellence Director General's and Excellence in Safety and Quality awards for the NMHS HEART Program.