



# NMHS Board Communiqué

## February 2024

*This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 2 February 2024 at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre in the Noongar Season of Bunuru.*



*Bunuru (second summer) 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

Clin Prof David Forbes AM, Board Chair  
Ms Rebecca Strom, Deputy Board Chair  
Mrs Jahna Cedar OAM  
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman  
Ms Angela Edwards  
Mr Tony Evans  
Ms Karen Gullick  
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon  
Mr Steve Toutountzis

### Events and achievements

- 120 medical interns, who will undertake their clinical training across NMHS hospitals, were welcomed.



Minister for Health, Amber-Jade Sanderson (centre) at the official intern welcome.

### Welcome

We welcomed new Board member, Associate Professor Mathew Coleman, who brings a wealth of clinical, academic, and mental health and wellbeing expertise to the NMHS Board.

### 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 Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group. The Board heard from a patient whose care journey would have benefited from improved teamwork and communication. In addition, the Board acknowledged the high level of care provided to a family member by the Osborne Park Hospital multi-disciplinary inpatient and home visiting teams.

### Presentations to the Board

The Executive Director Mental Health Public Health Dental Services provided an overview of the Banksia Hill Detention Centre and Casuarina Prison Annexe In-reach service, which was established in August 2023. The presentation provided the Board with an understanding of the complexities and achievements of the multi-agency model to address the needs of children and adolescents with complex mental health and social needs.

The Chair of the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre Trust briefed the Board on the role of the Trust in managing and overseeing the A Class Reserve upon which several tenants as well as Sir Charles Gairdner and Perth Children's Hospital are located. In addition, priorities and planned initiatives were shared.

### Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

### Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- December Health Service Performance Report



## Visits and engagement

- Site and Service Chief Executive Roadshows



Clinical Professor David Forbes AM  
**BOARD CHAIR, NMHS**

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## Next Board meeting

Friday, 1 March 2024  
Dental Health Services  
Salter Point

- Acknowledgement of the significant work and achievements of staff in delivering improvements to patient care through the Hospital Emergency Access Response Taskforce (HEART) Program.
- Governance obligations including,
  - Strategic priorities and direction for the year ahead
  - Internal evaluation and assessment of the Board and its Committees.
  - Review of Board member induction and orientation resources.

## Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- The HEART Program's performance and current areas of focus
- Integrity
- Engagement activities with local, State, and national representatives as well as sites and services
- Activity and performance
- 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 either December or January.

### Finance Committee

The Committee considered reports on performance, activity, budget and staffing trends, including strategies to ensure financial sustainability.

In addition, the status of priority procurements and contracts, and major capital works were noted.

### People, Engagement and Culture Committee

No meeting held in either December or January.

### Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

No meeting held in either December or January.