



# NMHS Board Communiqué

June 2023

*This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 2 June 2023 at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital Board Room, Nedlands in the Noongar Season of Makuru.*



*Makuru is the coldest and wettest time of the year, with rain, storms and long nights.*

## Board Members present

Professor David Forbes AM, Chair  
Ms Rebecca Strom, Deputy Chair  
Mrs Jahna Cedar OAM  
Ms Angela Edwards  
Dr Hilary Fine  
Ms Karen Gullick  
Prof Paul Norman AM  
Ms Paula Rogers  
Mr Steve Toutountzis

## A cause for celebration

- Health Round Table Innovation Showcase Award: Dr George Eskander for the Junior Doctors' Manifesto
- 2023 Olive Anstey Nurse of the year: Clinical Nurse Specialist Tammi Nguyen
- Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand Society medal: Sister Sue Morey
- Australasian College of Health Service Management Rising Star Award: Emma Davies, Director Clinical Planning

## 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 to improve services and deliver excellent health care. The Board considered the values of care and respect when reviewing responses to consumers, in particular the importance of using plain language and factual information in communications to patients.

## Presentations to the Board

In recognition of National Reconciliation Week, bookended by the anniversaries of the 1967 Referendum and Mabo Day, Board member Mrs Jahna Cedar OAM took the Board on an engaging and inspirational journey, highlighted by history, about delivering an authentic and meaningful Acknowledgement of Country.

The Board also welcomed the newly appointed Executive Director Strategy and Transformation.

The Board received an in-depth review from the Area Director Business Information and Performance, which considered the NMHS's Health Service Performance Report's (HSPR) suite of indicators and targets, and explored drivers and enablers that influence performance outcomes, with focus upon those indicators that are persistently challenging for NMHS.

## Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

## Board Chair

Discussions included

- Consideration of recommendation 13 of the [Independent Governance Review of the Health Services Act 2016](#), and the breadth and scale of NMHS service delivery.
- Review of the April HSPR performance report
- Acknowledgement of the valuable contribution made by Dr Hilary Fine to the Board over the last five years. Through her appointment Dr Fine highlighted the importance and needs of primary care, and her leadership was influential in the appointment of an Executive Director People and Culture.

One team, many dreams.

Care / Respect / Innovation / Teamwork / Integrity



### **Board endorsements**

- Board Risk Appetite
- Strategic three-year Audit Plan 2023/24 to 2025/26

### **Visits and engagement**

- Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital
  - Intensive Care Unit,
  - Cardiovascular Medicine



Clinical Professor David Forbes AM

**BOARD CHAIR, NMHS**

[NMHS.BoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:NMHS.BoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au)

### **Next Board meeting**

Friday, 7 July 2023

Joondalup Health Campus

### **Chief Executive**

This month's report included:

- NMHS HEART Program and expansion of the Residential Care line. The Program is focused on improving access to care by improving patient flow.
- Engagement and consultation with clinical staff following the change of location of the new Women's and Babies' Hospital
- Implementation of the Digital Medical Record at King Edward Memorial Hospital and Single Sign-On technology in the SCGH Emergency Department
- Highlights, risks and areas of focus from each of the operational areas.

### **Board Committee updates**

The minutes and a précis from our Committees were provided by the respective Chairs.

#### **Audit and Risk Committee**

The Committee received a presentation from the NMHS General Counsel, and progress updates on external audits. In addition, reports were tabled about work health and safety compliance, industrial matters, the status of internal audits and strategic risks.

#### **Finance Committee**

The Committee were provided with a progress report from Mental Health Public Health and Dental Services about performance and activity, as well as an update on the NMHS Business Improvement Strategy.

The meeting also included a presentation by the Insurance Commission of WA concerning RiskCover premiums and market influences, to which all Board members were invited.

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

#### **People, Engagement and Culture Committee**

No meeting held in May.

#### **Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee**

The Committee received a presentation about initiatives to improve the quality and timeliness of discharge summaries.

The meeting also included a presentation by the Health and Disability Complaints Office on the number of complaints and trends across the health sector, and implications of the new National Code of Conduct for Health Care Workers, which will come into effect 1 July 2023, was discussed.

The monthly consumer, clinical incidents and safety and quality performance reports were considered, with focus on elective surgery and unplanned returns to theatre.

