



# NMHS Board Communiqué

June 2025

*This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 6 June 2025 at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre, 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

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

## Apologies

Jahna Cedar OAM

## Approvals and endorsements

- NMHS Internal Audit Annual Plan 2025/26
- RiskCover full insurance premium

## Events and achievements

- WA Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards
- Rotary Nurse of the Year Awards

## 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 reflected on the importance of adopting trauma-informed practices when providing care to patients, particularly those who attend the Emergency Department, since it creates a safer environment for patients and staff, and leads to better outcomes and experiences.

In addition, the Board acknowledged a consumer who conveyed their gratitude for the professionalism, compassion and high standard of care they received by emergency medicine staff.

## Presentations to the Board

The Board received a briefing from the NMHS Area Director of Business Information and Performance on the rapidly evolving area of Artificial Intelligence (AI), which has the potential to significantly improve patient outcomes and increase healthcare efficiency. Topics addressed included governance principles (local, WA Health, and State), key risks and challenges, opportunities, and current applications of AI being used by the organisation. The Board commended the team on their AI work, which has resulted in publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal and acceptance for presentation at an international conference later this year.

The Board also received a presentation by the NMHS Executive Director of Public Health and Clinical Excellence on key clinical risks, learnings, and quality improvement initiatives underway to minimise harm to, and improve outcomes, of our patients. The update also touched on preparations underway at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital to support implementation of the National Lung Cancer Screening Program from 1 July 2025.

## Board Chair and Chief Executive update

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

## Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- New Statement of Expectations from the Minister for Health
- April Health Service Performance Report
- Steps to progress recommendations arising from the recent governance effectiveness review
- The North Danjoo Yacker speaker series and other cultural and engagement activities



## Visits and engagement

- Danjoo Yacker Series
  - International Day of the Midwife
  - International Nurses Day
  - NMHS Reconciliation Week
  - Yarning Circle for Aboriginal Health Champions
- North Space leadership Forum



**2025 Rotary Nurse of the Year**

(L-R): Adjunct Associate Professor Karen Gullick, NMHS Board Chair; Dr Jodi Graham, Executive Director, Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group (SCGOPHCG); award winner Ellie Tovey, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital; Joanne Reid, Nurse Director; Robert Toms, NMHS Chief Executive.



**International Nurses Day**

(L-R): Dr Sheralee Tamaliunas, A/Assistant Director General; Dr Robina Redknap, Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer; Joanne Reid, Nurse Director, SCGOPHCG; Sharon Delahunty, Nurse Director Mental Health, South Metropolitan Health Service; Adjunct Associate Professor Karen Gullick, NMHS Board Chair; Robert Toms, NMHS Chief Executive; Sandra Harben, Noongar Elder, Associate Researcher, Curtin University.



**North Space Leadership Forum**

(L-R): Robert Toms, NMHS Chief Executive; Adjunct Associate Professor Karen Gullick, NMHS Board Chair; Daniel Murray, Keynote Speaker.

- Board Stakeholder Engagement plans

## Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Progress of major infrastructure projects - Graylands Reconfiguration and Forensics Project and new Women and Babies Hospital
- Winter strategy, and capacity and demand optimisation
- Whole of health system priorities, including elective surgery and outpatient program reform
- 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 a briefing from the Office of the Auditor General and audit partner in readiness for the annual external financial audit. The Committee also considered the Annual Internal Audit Plan 2025/26, which was developed in response to revised Global Internal Audit Standards.

In addition, reports were tabled on legislative and regulatory compliance obligations, as well as the progress of internal and external audits.

### Finance Committee

The Committee received its regular update on performance and activity from the Mental Health Services and Dental Health Services. In addition, it considered financial regulatory matters, noted progress to finalise the 2025/26 contract to deliver public health services at Joondalup Health Campus, and reviewed the status of strategic risks.

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 May.

### Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee welcomed the SCGOPHCG Pain Management Service, the sole accredited pain management training unit for the State, receiving an overview of the service with focus on safety and quality.

The Committee was also briefed by staff from the Bethesda Palliative Care Services, which offers inpatient specialist services to a limited number of patients from the NMHS catchment area.

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.



Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick  
**BOARD CHAIR, NMHS**

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 [Our Board and communiques](#)

 [Minister for Health's Statement of Expectations](#)

[NMHS's Statement of Intent](#)

### Next Board meeting

Friday, 4 July 2025  
Joondalup Health Campus



### NMHS Reconciliation Week and Yarning Circle for Aboriginal Health Champions

(L-R): Jahna Cedar OAM, Chair, NMHS Board People, Engagement and Culture Committee; Rob Toms, NMHS Chief Executive; Professor Sandra Eades, Centre for Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health; Steven Jacobs, Welcome to Country; Professor Fiona Stanley AC.