



## Communiqué **WA Country Health Service Board**

This communiqué highlights key discussions from the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Board’s regional engagement meetings in the Midwest and Pilbara regions.

### **26 – 27 November 2020**

The Board travelled to Meekatharra and Onslow for the final regional engagement visit of 2020.

The Board had the opportunity to visit both Meekatharra Hospital and Onslow Health Service, where local staff at each site provided a tour of the facilities and highlighted key issues and initiatives relevant to the health services.

In addition to these important site visits, the Board also met with local staff and community stakeholders, including key service partners, to discuss pertinent subjects relevant to the community and stakeholders.

These sessions also provided an opportunity for the Board to highlight WACHS’ Strategic Plan 2019 – 2024 directions.



*WACHS Board, Chief Executive and staff at Onslow Health Service*



*WACHS Board, Chief Executive and Midwest Murchison staff, Meekatharra*

The Board also held dedicated meetings with Murchison local governments in Meekatharra, and also received a briefing from Chevron in relation to their Wheatstone project in the Pilbara and their contribution to the Onslow Health Service.

The Board would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff in the Midwest and Pilbara regions for their enduring commitment to delivering high quality and patient centred care to their local communities.

The Board would also like to thank Karen Street, Margi Faulkner, Narelle Dennett and Hayley Aliphon, along with their dedicated regional teams, for organising and hosting the Board meeting and engagements over the two day visit.

The Board meeting was held in Onslow on 27 November 2020.

### **Members Attending**

- Dr. Neale Fong (Board Chair)
- Ms. Wendy Newman (Deputy Board Chair)
- Mr. Alan Ferris
- Mr. Paul Fitzpatrick

- Ms. Kelly Howlett
- Dr Kim Isaacs
- Dr Diane Mohen
- Ms. Mary Anne Stephens (via MS Teams)
- Ms. Meredith Waters

## Apologies

Dr. Daniel Heredia

## In Attendance

Mr. Jeffrey Moffet (Chief Executive)

Ms. Margaret Denton (Chief Operating Officer)

Ms. Margi Faulkner (Regional Director), observing

## Key Matters for Decision

- The Board reviewed and provided in principle endorsement for the draft 2021-22 WACHS business cases.

## Key Matters for Discussion

- The Chief Executive's report provided an update on performance, projections and key developments within WACHS over the past month.
- The Board discussed the Auditor General's Management Letters in relation to the Finance and KPI and Information System Audits, and the recent Stakeholder Engagement Audit.
- An update was provided on the Bunbury Medical Workforce Review and the implementation of the Speaking up for Safety program at South West regional sites, with the Board noting the actions and progress to date addressing key report findings and recommendations.
- The Board were briefed on WACHS' current housing and staff accommodation arrangements, and discussed strategies improve these facilities to support the regions with attracting and retaining staff to regional areas.
- An overview of the Commonwealth Government's review in to multipurpose services sites and WACHS' response to the review was provided, and noted the governance arrangements for delivering the recommendations arising from the review and the key challenges facing WACHS sites.
- The Board discussed the provision of dental health services in regional WA, and noted the ongoing work with key service partners to design an oral health plan for residents of country WA.
- An update on the implementation of the Country Ambulance Strategy recommendations was provided, with the Board noting the progress and ongoing work to address the recommendations.

## Summary of Standing Items for Discussion and Noting

- WACHS Organisational Standing Reports including:
  - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Monthly Dashboard Report.
  - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Monthly Exception Report.
  - Workforce Assurance and Compliance Monthly Dashboard Report.
  - Finance and Resources Monthly Board Dashboard Report.
  - Detailed Risk Report as at 30 October 2020.
  - Progress Summary against the Audit Plan Report as at 12 November 2020.
- General items for noting included:
  - WACHS COVID-19 Update
  - WA Government Cyber Security Coordination Framework
  - WACHS HSPR – September 2020
  - Correspondence from Shire of Cunderdin

## Next Meeting

The final Board meeting of the year will be held in Perth on 18 December 2020, and will include a joint session with the WACHS Executive.

**Dr Neale Fong**  
**BOARD CHAIR**

10 December 2020