



## BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

This communiqué highlights key discussions from the recent WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Board meeting.

**22 October 2021**

The Board meeting was held in Perth on Friday, 22 October 2021.

The Board welcomed Ms Jennifer McGrath, Mental Health Commissioner, and received an update on the program of work underway by the Mental Health Commission, including the state-wide Ministerial Taskforce into Public Mental Health Services for Infants, Children and Adolescents aged 0-18 years. The WACHS Board acknowledges the leadership of Ms McGrath in advocating for country patients and addressing inequity in regional locations, and WACHS remains committed to continue collaborating with the Mental Health Commission to address any challenges.



*Board Chair Dr Neale Fong, Chief Executive Jeffrey Moffet, facilitator Mr Greg Reiser, and Board Members*



*(L-R) Board Member Dr Kim Isaacs, Deputy Board Chair Ms Wendy Newman, Director of Aged Care Ms Marcelle James, and Board Member Mrs Mary Anne Stephens*

Additionally, the Board undertook a 'deep dive' into aged care with WACHS Executive members. During this session, the Board and Executive considered WACHS' current role and approach to delivering aged care services within country locations, the impact of the outcomes arising from the Royal Commission into Aged Care Safety and Quality on WACHS, and the future direction in which WACHS could deliver aged care services. Discussion also focused on the benefits and risks, and key changes needed should service delivery be evolved and what was needed to overcome any barriers.

The Board received reports from the Safety and Quality, Audit and Risk and Finance Committees.

### Members Attending

Dr. Neale Fong (Board Chair)  
Ms. Wendy Newman (Deputy Board Chair)  
Mr. Alan Ferris (by MS Teams)  
Mr. Paul Fitzpatrick  
Dr. Daniel Heredia

Ms. Kelly Howlett  
Dr. Kim Isaacs  
Dr. Diane Mohen  
Ms. Mary Anne Stephens

### In Attendance

Mr. Jeffrey Moffet (Chief Executive)  
Ms. Margaret Denton (Chief Operating Officer)

### Apologies

Nil

## Key Matters for Decision

- The Board endorsed the commencement of transitioning out of Commonwealth Home Support Programme in the Great Southern.

## Key Matters for Discussion

- The Board discussed the Chief Executive's Performance Agreement and outcomes for 2019-21 and 2021-23.
- The Board received a comprehensive qualitative evaluation report on WACHS' improved Care Opinion governance and performance against key measures.
- The Chief Executive's report provided an update on performance, projections and key developments within WACHS over the past month.
- The Board endorsed the meeting schedule and regional engagement locations for 2022.
- High level updates were received on WACHS' Performance across the Business Performance, Workforce, Safety and Quality, Finance, Business Services and COVID areas, and WACHS' progress with the COVID-19 vaccination program.

## Summary of Standing Items for Discussion and Noting

- WACHS Organisational Standing Reports including:
  - Health Service Performance Report, August 2021
  - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Dashboard Report, September 2021.
  - Audit and Risk Committee Quarterly Report – Q1 2021-22
  - Workforce, Assurance and Compliance Dashboard Report, September 2021.
  - Detailed Risk Review Report.
  - Progress Summary against the Audit Plan Report.
- Items for noting included:
  - WACHS Final Audit Report – Financial Controls Health Check 2020-21;
  - WACHS Board Response to the State Government's Expectations of Good Governance for Boards and Committees; and
  - WA Health's Submission to the Senate Inquiry into Outer Metro, Rural and Remote Primary Care.

## Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Geraldton on 26 November 2021.

## Dr Neale Fong BOARD CHAIR

15 November 2021



*Board Member Mrs Mary Anne Stephens and WACHS Executive Members  
at the Aged Care 'Deep Dive'*