



BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

This communiqué highlights key discussions from the recent WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Board's regional engagement meetings in the South West region.

25 and 26 February 2021

The Board kicked off 2021 with a regional engagement visit to the South West region, where local staff welcomed them on their first stop at Busselton Health Campus. The Board toured the facility and also had an opportunity to meet with staff and receive presentations about key initiatives and achievements at the campus and across the region.

Site visits to Augusta, Nannup and Margaret River Hospitals, along with the Margaret River Community Mental Health and Child Health Clinics, also showcased the ongoing commitment of WACHS staff to delivering patient centred care to their local communities, and provided opportunities to hear about some of the challenges and highlights in delivering care in the South West region.

The Board also held a dedicated stakeholder meeting in Margaret River, where local community members and representatives from the surrounding shires and key service providers had an opportunity to discuss relevant matters pertinent to their communities.



(L-R) Board Members Meredith Waters, Mary Anne Stephens, Dr Diane Mohen, Dr Neale Fong (Board Chair), Alan Ferris, and South West Regional Executive Jan Cook and Kerry Winsor (Regional Director) at Busselton Health Campus.

The Board would like to thank all the staff in the South West for their dedication to providing quality and accessible health services. The Board would also like to thank Kerry Winsor and Jan Cook, 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 Margaret River on 26 February 2021.

Members Attending

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

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

In Attendance

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

Observer

Kerry Winsor (Regional Director)

Apologies

Nil

Key Matters for Decision

- The Board endorsed the Health Strategy for Older People 2021-26 for further external consultation.
- The Board endorsed the Cultural Governance Framework for implementation through WACHS.

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 were briefed on the progress made by WACHS to increase Aboriginal employment, and discussed strategies to further increase employment and drive support to increase the Aboriginal medical workforce.
- The Board received a high level demonstration on the WACHS Aboriginal Health Dashboard, which enables strategic level monitoring against a range of key Aboriginal health performance indicators.
- A high level brief on exploring of the potential integration of traditional Aboriginal medicine practices within WACHS' current clinical practices was provided.
- The Board noted the launch of the WACHS Environment and Sustainability Framework 2020 on 19 April 2021.
- An update on the achievements of the WACHS Operational Plan initiatives and a clear picture of where WACHS is progressing against the Strategic Plan priorities was provided.
- The Board met with Professors Archie Clements and Suzanne Robinson from Curtin University to discuss commencement of establishing a rural and remote health research and innovation centre.

Summary of Standing Items for Discussion and Noting

- WACHS Organisational Standing Reports including:
 - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Dashboard Report.
 - Workforce, Assurance and Compliance Dashboard Report.
 - Audit and Risk Committee Quarterly Report to the Board (Quarter 2, 2020-21).
 - Finance and Resources Dashboard Report.
 - Detailed Risk Review Report as 31 January 2021.
 - Progress Summary against the Audit Plan Report as 31 January 2021.
- Items for noting included:
 - Murchison employment conditions update.
 - WAPHA arrangements.
 - Update on progression of regional dental health services.
 - Brief on staffing accommodation in Meekatharra.
 - Correspondence from Hon Greg Hunt MP regarding MBS Telehealth consultations.
 - Update on the WACHS History and Heritage project.
 - Commencement of HSS' strategic planning process.
 - Updates to the WACHS Board and Committee Statutory Reporting 2021.



The Board, Chief Executive and Augusta MPS staff

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Exmouth on 19 March 2021 and will form part of the Board's two day regional engagement visit to the Midwest.

Dr Neale Fong
BOARD CHAIR

11 March 2021