



BOARD COMMUNIQUE

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

29 July 2022

The Board meeting was held in Perth on Friday, 29 July 2022 at Grace Vaughan House.

The Board welcomed Hon Colin Holt to his first meeting as a WACHS Board member. Colin has significant experience as a regional Parliamentarian, and sound knowledge of regional communities. Colin was previously a foundation partner of a community development organisation and has held various roles in the Department of Agriculture WA.

The Board were also introduced to WACHS' first General Counsel, Ms Amy Salapak. WACHS is pleased to have Amy return to WA Health, and to WACHS specifically. Amy provided the Board with an overview of some potential structural changes and also an update on development of due diligence plans for the Board and Executive as required under the new Work Health and Safety legislation.

The Board welcomed Ms Stephanie Waters who provided a presentation on the WACHS Outpatient Reform program, a significant area of reform for WACHS. The Board provided their commitment and support to progress this important program of work, and recognised the significant inroads made despite the challenges experienced through COVID-19.

The Board Finance and Safety and Quality Committee Chairs provided briefings to the Board on recent Committee meetings held in the month of July.

Members attending

Ms Wendy Newman (Acting Board Chair)
Mr Alan Ferris
Mr Paul Fitzpatrick
Dr Daniel Heredia
Dr Diane Mohen
Ms Mary Anne Stephens

In Attendance

Mr Jeffrey Moffet (Chief Executive)
Ms Melissa Vernon (ED Operations Hub)

Apologies

Dr Neale Fong (Board Chair)
Ms Kelly Howlett

Key Matters for Decision

- The Board endorsed the Terms of Reference for the Audit and Risk Committee.
- The Board provided final endorsement of the WACHS Board Governance documents.

Key Matters for Discussion

- The Board were provided with an overview of recent media on patient transport services, the Minister for Health's implementation of a multi-agency response to support and ensure continuity of ambulance services, and an update on the contract reviews for ambulance and aeromedical services.
- In his report, the Chief Executive provided an update on Executive staffing movements and recent Ministerial regional engagement visits to the Goldfields and Kimberley regions.
- Discussions also focused on workforce and service continuity matters, COVID-19, industrial agreement updates, the development of 2023-24 business cases, and the progression of the 2021-22 Annual Report.
- High level updates were also 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, May 2022.
 - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Report, June 2022.
 - Workforce, Assurance and Compliance Report, June 2022.
 - WACHS Finance, FTE and Activity Report, June 2022.
 - Risk Review Report.
 - Progress Summary against the Audit Plan.

Items for noting included:

- Appointments and reappointments to Health Service Provider Board as at 1 July 2022.
- Executed 2022-23 Service Agreement between Department of Health and WACHS.
- An update on the 2022-23 CHSP funding agreement.
- WACHS Capital milestones and facility openings.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Perth on 26 August 2022.

Ms Wendy Newman

ACTING BOARD CHAIR