



BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

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

16 December 2022

The final Board meeting of the year was held in Perth on Friday, 16 December 2022 at WACHS' offices in Curtin University.

At the beginning of the meeting, a joint session was held with the WACHS Executive. This time was used to reflect back on the past few years, particularly on the many challenges WACHS faced but also to highlight the amazing initiatives and achievements our staff have led and delivered on.

The Chief Executive and Board Chair thanked Executive staff and their teams for their continued dedication and commitment to the delivery of care to country patients, and acknowledged the many achievements that, despite significant challenges, have all contributed to better health outcomes for country residents. The Chief Executive also thanked the Board for their continued guidance and support to WACHS and the Executive team.

The Board acknowledged the leadership of the Chief Executive, and thanked the Executive team for continuing to maintain service continuity whilst still remaining focused on progressing WACHS' strategic priorities. The Board expressed their appreciation to all WACHS staff, for their enduring dedication and commitment in supporting and delivering high quality patient centred care to country communities.

The Board received high level briefings on their due diligence obligations under the Work, Health and Safety Act 2020 (WA), and on the MPS funding model and its implications on the delivery of aged care services through MPS and CHSP in country WA.

Several presentations to the Board were also provided, with teams from the Medical Education Unit, Palliative Care, Cancer Services, and the WACHS-Curtin Alliance highlighting the significant successes resulting from these programs and the continued work being undertaken in these important areas. The Board acknowledged and congratulated the teams on these important achievements which are supporting better health outcomes and the delivery of care closer to home for our country patients.

The Board Finance, Audit and Risk, and Safety and Quality Committee Chairs also provided briefings to the Board on recent Committee meetings held in the months of November and December.

Members attending

Dr Neale Fong (Board Chair)
Ms Wendy Newman (Deputy Board Chair)
Mr. Alan Ferris
Mr. Paul Fitzpatrick
Dr. Daniel Heredia
Mr. Colin Holt
Ms. Kelly Howlett (Ms Teams)
Dr. Diane Mohen
Ms. Mary Anne Stephens (MS Teams)
Mrs. Shaneane Weldon

In attendance

Jeffrey Moffet (Chief Executive)
Rob Pulsford (A/Chief Operating Officer)

Apologies

Nil

Key Matters for Decision

- The Board endorsed the progression of the operating and capital 2023-24 Budget Submissions for WACHS.

Key Matters for Discussion

- In his report, the Chief Executive provided an update on Executive recruitments.
- Discussions also focused on work health and safety matters, workforce and service continuity matters, and 2023-24 Budget Submissions.
- High level updates were also received on WACHS' performance across the Business Performance, Workforce, Safety and Quality, Finance, Business Services and COVID areas.

Summary of Standing Items for Discussion and Noting

- WACHS Organisational Standing Reports including:
 - Health Service Performance Report, October 2022.
 - Safety, Quality and Clinical Performance Dashboard Report, November 2022.
 - Finance, FTE and Activity reports, October and November 2022
 - Workforce, Assurance and Compliance Dashboard Report, November 2022.
 - Risk Review Report, November 2022.
 - Progress Summary against the Audit Plan Report, November 2022.

Items for noting included

- WACHS Aboriginal Health and Wellbeing Action Plan 2022-25.
- Rural Health West Annual Health Workforce Update: The rural nursing, midwifery, dental and allied health workforce in Western Australia report.
- Rural Health West Annual Workforce Update: Rural General Practice in Western Australia report.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Albany on Friday 24 February 2023.

Dr Neale Fong

BOARD CHAIR