



BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

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

3 November 2023

The Board meeting was held in Perth on Friday, 3 November 2023 at WACHS' offices at Grace Vaughan House (GVH) in Shenton Park.

This meeting commenced the Board's focus on the refresh of the [WACHS Strategic Plan 2019-24](#) (the Strategic Plan). The Strategic Plan was launched in August 2019, as a five-year plan set against a 15-year horizon. The Strategic Plan has seven (7) priorities, underpinned by the WACHS values. At the meeting on 28 September 2023, the Board agreed it is timely to commence discussions regarding the review process and consider a refresh of the key strategic issues facing WACHS.

The Board focused on understanding and reflecting on the progress of the current Strategic Plan, exploring and understanding the key strategic issues and service / program performance achievements within WACHS, and looking outward and forward at the key forces impacting WACHS and the broader health sector.

The Board acknowledged achievements such as the growth and expansion of WACHS' virtual care services, improvements made to equity of access to services, the significant strengthening of staff support and safety initiatives, increased systemisation of safety and quality performance, strengthening relationships with partner agencies and deliberate investment in workplace and accommodation safety. Additionally, the Board discussed the key forces impacting health care, including workforce shortages, rapid advancements in technology and data, cost drivers and funding, and sustainability across all levels of health.

There will be further focus in 2024 on WACHS' strategic future, building on the foundations of the current Strategic Plan and incorporating a place-based care approach.

Members attending

Dr Neale Fong (Board Chair)
Ms Wendy Newman (Deputy Board Chair)
Mr Alan Ferris
Mr Paul Fitzpatrick
Mr Colin Holt
Mrs Jodi Johnston
Mrs Shaneane Weldon
Dr Catherine Stoddart

In Attendance

Mr Jeffrey Moffet (Chief Executive)
Mr Sean Conlan (A/Chief Operating Officer)

Apologies

Mr Peter Campbell
Dr Diane Mohen

Key Matters for Decision

- The Board endorsed the 2023-24 Write-Off Schedule.

Key Matters for Discussion

- The Chief Executive provided an update on Executive appointments and departures, meetings with the Minister for Health and Department of Health, and progress of the Country Health Sustainability Taskforce.
- The Board received key updates on contract negotiations and service delivery matters occurring across the organisation.

Summary of Standing Items for Discussion and Noting

- An update from the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, and the 2024 meeting schedule.
- An update from the Chair of the Finance Committee, and the 2024 meeting schedule.
- An update from the Chair of the Safety and Quality Committee, and the 2024 meeting schedule.

Items for Noting included

- The Board received updates on several strategic priorities and areas of focus for the organisation including work, health and safety, and workforce and service continuity.
- High level updates were also received on WACHS' performance across the Business Performance, Workforce, Safety and Quality, Finance, Mental Health and Business Services.
- The Board noted the finalised 2024 Board meeting schedule.
- An update was provided on the 2024-25 State Budget process.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Perth on 15 December 2023.

Dr Neale Fong

BOARD CHAIR

November 2023