



BOARD COMMUNIQUÉ

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

26 July 2024

The Board travelled to the Kimberley for the second regional engagement trip of 2024. The visit provided the Board with the opportunity to visit sites at Kununurra, Halls Creek, Warmun and Wyndham on Thursday 25 July 2024.

Whilst at those sites the Board met with local staff, community members, local government representatives, service partners and other stakeholders, and took the opportunity to discuss emerging regional priorities and challenges, as well as the various projects and initiatives underway to improve service provision to local communities in the Kimberley.



Above: WACHS Board Members, Chief Executive and WACHS Kimberley Regional Executive members at Halls Creek Hospital.

The Board meeting was held at Kununurra Hospital on Friday, 26 July 2024. At the meeting, the Board acknowledged the excellent work of the Kimberley team for facilitating and hosting the Board meeting, and staff and stakeholder engagements over the two-day visit.

The Board would like to acknowledge and congratulate Dr Diane Mohen, as her term of appointment ended on 30 June 2024. Dr Mohen commenced with the Board in July 2018, and during her time, contributed greatly both as a Board member and Chair of the Safety and Quality Committee. Her passion for improving health care outcomes for our regional communities, along with her tremendous and long-standing history with WA Health, meant WACHS has been incredibly fortunate to benefit from her expertise, commitment, and compassion. Dr Mohen has left an indelible mark on our organisation and the communities we serve.

The Board also welcomed Dr Lorraine Anderson to her inaugural meeting as a newly appointed WACHS Board member. Dr Anderson's tenure on the Board commenced on 1 July 2024, and she brings with her a wealth of experience in rural and remote medicine across country WA communities and in the Indian Ocean Territories. Dr Anderson's areas of interest are in palliative care and Aboriginal health care.

Right: WACHS Board Members with the Chief Executive, Wyndham Health Service staff and DHAC Chair Maxine Maddap.



Members attending

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

In Attendance

Mr Jeffrey Moffet, Chief Executive
Mr John Quinn, Chief Operating Officer Rural

Observer

Mr Chris Hart, A/Executive Director Kimberley

Apologies

Nil

Key Matters for Decision

- The Board approved WACHS' response to the Minister for Health's Statement of Expectation for quarter four (4) for 2023-24.
- The Board approved the WACHS Annual Internal Audit Plan for 2024-25.
- The Board approved the WACHS Section 40 Financial Management Act Estimates.
- The Board approved the Mental Health Commission Service Agreement 2023-24 Deed of Variation 03.

Key Matters for Discussion

- The Chief Executive provided an update on Executive appointments, workforce development initiatives, service delivery matters, and the progress of key projects.
- The Board received updates from the Chairs of the Board Committees, including:
 - The Finance Committee meeting held on 22 July 2024, and the finance, FTE and activity performance for the organisation.
 - The Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 16 July 2024, and the Committee's quarterly report to the Board (quarter 4).
 - The Safety and Quality Committee meeting held on 18 July 2024, and the Committee's quarterly report to the Board (quarter 4).
- The Board continued discussions on the progress of strengthening person-centred service delivery models.
- The Board discussed section 19(2) exemption initiatives occurring across the organisation.
- The Board discussed key strategic initiatives including patient and consumer engagement, in particular, how to strengthen the conduit between our communities and health services to ensure there is a defined purpose and meaningful impact and advocacy for consumers.

Items for Noting

- The Board received updates on strategic and operational initiatives including contractual matters, work, health and safety, workforce and services, capital infrastructure matters, and governance matters.

Next Meeting

- The next Board meeting will be held in Perth on 30 August 2024.

Dr Neale Fong
BOARD CHAIR

August 2024