



Communique

August 2023 meeting of the East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) Board

The EMHS Board meets each month to consider and decide on any matters related to its regulatory and governance function.

This Communique aims to inform stakeholders of the work of the Board and provides an overview of items discussed. Due to the sensitivity of items, not all are included within this Communique. Please forward it onto colleagues and employees who may be interested in its content. All Board Communiques can be accessed [via this link](#).

The meeting of the Board on 29 August 2023 was held in the Chief Executive Boardroom at Royal Perth Hospital (RPH). The meeting commenced at 11:30am and concluded at 6:00pm.

Chair's update

The Board Chair, Ms Pia Turcinov, provided an update on areas of focus during the month. A formal recruitment process will take place for a new Board member, noting the resignation of member and Deputy Chair, Hon. Melissa Parke. Ms Parke has taken up the role of Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN) based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Chief Executive's update

Dr Lesley Bennett, EMHS A/Chief Executive, provided a summary of the current areas of focus across EMHS and WA health, including emergency reform, aged-care and workforce.

Dr Bennett provided an update on work being done in response to the results of the 2023 Your Voice in Health (YViH) survey. EMHS will be refreshing the Stop the Violence program and integrating safety and wellbeing programs.

The Minister for Health visited Bentley Health Service (BHS) on 25 August 2023, with media in attendance to highlight a new midwifery model of care. The model is expected to commence next year, dependent on minor infrastructure upgrades.

Presentation

Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) – briefing on cyber security

The Board welcomed Mr Peter Bouhlas, WA Chief Information Security Officer at the Office of Digital Government (ODG) to present on cyber security.

The ODG includes a cyber security unit which leads, coordinates and supports whole-of-government cyber security efforts to protect the WA Government's information, assets and service delivery from cyber threats and supports agencies to uplift their cyber security capabilities.

The WA Government Cyber Security policy outlines measures WA government agencies are required to undertake to manage their cyber security risks. Government agencies must report annually on progress towards implementation of this policy.

Director General (DG), Department of Health

The Board welcomed the Director General (DG), Dr Russell-Weisz, to the Board meeting for an opportunity to meet and discuss current key issues with the Board, including Aboriginal health, mental health, workforce, primary care, aged care, and digital. Other matters discussed by the Board and DG included capital works, forensic mental health, and the WA Safety and Quality Strategy.



Key approvals and endorsements

The Board approved/endorsed the following key documents:

- EMHS Delegation and Authorisation Schedule
- EMHS Multicultural Plan 2024-27
- Attestation Statement for Clinical Safety, Quality and Clinical Governance.

Board reports

EMHS Board received updates from AKG and RPBG.

- AKG noted the upcoming 50TH anniversary of Kalamunda Hospital (KH) on 07 October 2023 and the planned Minister for Health visit to KH on 01 November 2023.
- RPBG acknowledged the commencement of the Eating Disorders Service at RPH, and the new collaborative Health Justice Partnership providing onsite legal aid support to patients.

Direct reports from the Chairs of the respective Board Committees were also presented, providing an update on issues considered at their most recent meetings:

- The EMHS Board Operational Performance and Strategy Committee Chair provided an update on key metrics and areas of focus and noted that the Hon. Stephen Dawson, Minister for Innovation and the Digital Economy; Medical Research, recently visited the Cell and Tissue Therapy WA (CTTWA) unit at RPH.
- The EMHS Board Safety and Quality Committee Chair tabled a summary of the safety and quality metrics and key areas of focus for the Committee.
- The EMHS Board Finance Committee Chair provided an overview of EMHS activity and financial performance for July 2023.
- The Board Audit and Risk Committee Chair provided an update on a recent meeting of all HSP Board Audit and Risk Committee Chairs, where common issues were shared and noted.

EMHS Project Director, James MacWatt, presented updates on major capital projects business cases/funding.

Executive Director People and Capability, Christine Thompson, attended the meeting to provide an update on the stop the violence strategy refresh.

The Board also received an update from the Executive Director Corporate Services and Contract Management, Philip Aylward, on the expansion of capacity at St John of God Midland Public Hospital.

EMHS Executive Director Finance and Infrastructure (and Chief Finance Officer), Graeme Jones, attended the meeting to discuss key matters around EMHS 2023-24 budget.

Other

Prior to the Board meeting, members toured the major plants at RPH (generators and plant room).

During the Board meeting, the Board also took the opportunity to visit the 'For our Elders' exhibition in the RPH gallery.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at Armadale Hospital on 26 Sept 2023.

Pia Turcinov AM
Chair, EMHS Board