



Communique

July 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 25 July 2023 was held at Royal Perth Hospital (RPH) in the EMHS Chief Executive Boardroom. The meeting commenced at 11.30am and concluded at 5.00pm.

Chief Executive's update

Dr Lesley Bennett, EMHS A/Chief Executive, provided a summary of the current areas of focus across EMHS.

Dr Bennett provided an update on work being done in response to the results of the 2023 Your Voice in Health (YViH) survey – with a focus on the key areas of safety and wellbeing; communication; attraction and retention; and equity, diversity and inclusion.

Presentations

The Board welcomed Dr Ricky Arenson, Chair Clinical Staff Association (CSA), who provided an overview of areas of focus for the CSA.

Dr Arenson noted an unprecedented shortage of Junior Medical Officers (JMO) and the need to focus on positive messaging to support wellbeing, culture and morale.

Board reports

EMHS Board received updates from Armadale Kalamunda Group (AKG), Royal Perth Bentley Group (RPBG) and EMHS mental health.

AKG and the Board discussed how the Board may further influence the 10-year state health plan, given the projected increase in population in the south-east metropolitan area.

RPBG discussed strategies in place to address incidents of violence and aggression. As a celebration point, the Executive Director RPBG, Ben Noteboom, advised the Board about the unveiling of murals and information about Aboriginal culture/law in RPH outpatient clinics.

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 Safety and Quality Committee Chair tabled a summary of the safety and quality metrics and key areas of focus for the Committee. EMHS is to be congratulated on the Health Services Performance Report Safety and Quality key performance indicators this month – as it is the best performing Health Service Provider to date.
- The EMHS Board Finance Committee Chair provided an overview of EMHS activity and financial performance for June 2023.



James MacWatt presented updates on major capital projects business cases/funding, which includes the proposed Surgicentre at Bentley Health Service, Emergency Department redevelopment at RPH, Bentley Secure Extended Care Unit (SECU) and Byford Health Hub.

The Board also received an update from the Executive Director Corporate Services and Contract Management, Philip Aylward, on procurement and contract management items. Philip provided an update on cyber-security and how this is being managed across EMHS, and noted positive feedback from a recent cyber security simulation event held with the Board and Area Executive Group.

Dr Sumit Sinha-Roy presented a comprehensive overview of the Emergency Access Program (EAP). This month's wins include aged-care process refinement and continuing development of and EMHS aged care pathways framework.

EMHS General Counsel, Maria Farrar, provided the Board with a summary of amendments to the Health Services Act 2016, which will impact functions in the EMHS Delegation and Authorisation Schedule. An updated Schedule will be tabled for Board approval next month.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at RPH on 29 August 2023.

Pia Turcinov AM
Chair, EMHS Board