



Communique

September 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 26 September 2023 was held in Goline House at Armadale Hospital (AH). The meeting commenced at 11:00am and concluded at 4:00pm.

Leader rounding

This month, Board members had the opportunity to visit with some of the staff at AH, in the areas of catering and patient support services, maternity and paediatrics, mental health, and the Emergency Department. The Board members provided positive feedback following the leader rounding, praising the work of the various teams visited and were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet staff members who took time out of their very busy days.

Chair's update

The Board Chair, Ms Pia Turcinov, provided an update on meetings and events attended during the month, noting two excellent initiatives - the EMHS Youth Think Tank final and the Health Service Provider Innovation showcase. Ms Turcinov noted the positive impact of these EMHS-led initiatives and extended her congratulations to the EMHS Innovation Team for their outstanding efforts in this space.

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 undertaken in response to the results of the 2023 Your Voice in Health (YViH) survey, with a focus on communication to staff. EMHS has recently launched regular video communication to staff from Dr Bennett (via East 2 East global newsletters), and a communication expert is being engaged to further develop communication methods.

The extension of the Royal Perth Bentley Group (RPBG) Wellbeing Team to Armadale Kalamunda Group (AKG) was celebrated, and Dr Bennett discussed further opportunities for expansion.

Presentations

Junior Medical Officers Society

The Board welcomed RPBG JMO Society Co-President and Vice President, who provided an overview of areas of focus.

15 members volunteer their time to advocate for JMOs in areas such as appropriate support, safe working conditions and opportunities for professional development. The JMO Society also coordinates and supports activities and initiatives aimed at improving JMO morale, including social events, integration with peers in other agencies/wards, new rostering and overtime processes and re-enforcing a focus on wellbeing.



EMHS Strategic Asset Plan (SAP)

The Board also had the opportunity to engage with external consultants and members of the EMHS Infrastructure Team, about the refresh of the EMHS SAP.

The external consultants have facilitated workshops with staff across EMHS and will continue stakeholder engagement with the EMHS Area Executive Group, to prioritise infrastructure works through a risk matrix approach.

Board reports

EMHS Board received updates from AKG and RPBG.

AKG in particular noted their excitement for the pending digital medical record implementation, and the planned celebrations for the 50TH anniversary of Kalamunda Hospital.

RPBG also noted the upcoming celebrations of the 50TH anniversary for the Royal Perth Hospital Emergency Department. October 2023 will be a golden month!

RPBG will also welcome the formal launch of the Health Justice Partnership, on 11 October 2023.

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. The Board noted positive performance across EMHS in safety and quality indicators and congratulated the Safety and Quality Team for their efforts and achievements.
- The EMHS Board Finance Committee Chair provided an overview of EMHS activity and financial performance for August 2023.

EMHS Project Director, 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 the expansion of capacity at St John of God Midland Public Hospital.

Board matters

The Board farewelled member and Deputy Chair (and Board Audit and Risk Committee Chair), Hon. Melissa Parke, who is stepping down from her position on the Board to take up an exciting new role as Executive Director of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons, based in Geneva, Switzerland.

The Board acknowledged Melissa's significant contribution to EMHS and WA Health during her tenure and wished her well in her new role.

Board member, Mr Peter Forbes, was endorsed as the new Board Audit and Risk Committee Chair.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at RPH on 31 October 2023.

Pia Turcinov AM
Chair, EMHS Board