



Communique

April 2022 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 April 2022 was held in the EMHS Chief Executive Office Boardroom and via MS Teams. The meeting commenced at 11.00am and concluded at 3.30pm.

Chief Executive's update

Liz MacLeod, Chief Executive, provided an overview of the current areas of focus across the EMHS.

A new position is being created to sit on the EMHS Area Executive group – Area Director of Aboriginal Health.

LM updated the Board on the EMHS COVID Response and staffing updates. Focus will soon be transitioning from pandemic to living with COVID and what this entails for EMHS going forward.

Presentation

The Board met new A/Area Director Allied Health Services – Mr Ben Noteboom. Ben was invited to meet the Board Members whilst he is covering John Buchanan's leave.

Ben provided the Board with an outline of key focus areas including long stay patients, digital health and standardisation of governance across the Allied Health Services. The Board were pleased to hear about the work progressing in the Allied Health space.

Board Reports

EMHS Board received direct reports from the Chairs of the respective Board Committees regarding issues considered at their most recent meetings:

- The EMHS Board Safety and Quality Committee provided a summary of the safety and quality metrics and key areas of focus for the Committee. The Committee noted the implementation of the PARROT chart at both AHS and SJGMPH as part of the statewide response to the early recognition and escalation of the deteriorating paediatric patients.
- The EMHS Board Audit and Risk Committee provided a summary of the key areas of focus for the Committee noting the current reviews that are underway and monitoring the EMHS Extreme Risks TAPs and status.
- The EMHS Board Digital & Innovation Committee provided a summary of the key areas of focus for the Committee. A draft 3-year EMHS Innovation Strategy and Plan covering financial year 2022-2024 is currently being developed, the draft mission is to *ignite, scale and sustain* the innovation capability of EMHS to support healthy people and amazing care.



- The EMHS Board Planning & Performance Committee provided a summary of key areas of focus for the Committee. An update on the Mental Health Transitional Care Unit was provided
- The EMHS Board Finance Committee provided a summary of the key issues arising at the monthly meeting.
- The Board received verbal updates from the Executive Directors from Armadale Kalamunda Group (AKG) and Royal Perth Bentley Group (RFBG) on key issues across the hospital sites.
- The Board received a presentation on EMHS Performance Update on the Emergency Access Program, WA Elective Surgery Target and Discharge Against Medical Advice. The presentation highlighted the Streamlined recruitment for nursing staff that has been undertaken across EMHS. With a total of 400 new nurses recruited to RFBG and 143 new nurses to AKG since 1 January 2022.
- The Board noted a slight improvement in the EMHS WA Emergency Access Target (WEAT) despite the additional work processes that COVID streaming and RAT testing requires.
- The Board were advised of the ongoing strategies and focus to improve the WEAT performance, such as:
 - COVID Patient Flow Coordinator to act as a single point of coordination for COVID patients across RFBG
 - ED Clinical Nurse Specialist Flow position to support ED diversion and patient flow at RPH.
 - Changes to the MediHotel service model and inclusion criteria to accommodate COVID positive patients awaiting transport or accommodation as a means of diverting patients from ED.
 - Opening of the RPH Ambulatory unit to support frailty pathways in ED and engaged with the Residential Care Line to promote the unit's ED avoidance pathways.
 - AKG has implemented ambulatory streaming as part of the EAP and the redesign has been successful with good clinical engagement.
 - The introduction of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) at AKG to support the frailty pathway.
 - HIVE expansion at AKG to include ambulatory patients.
 - AKG are also in the process of developing a discharge policy framework which will be aligned with the new operations hub process.
- The Board also noted the HIVE expansion progress across RPH and AHS with the technology trial complete on wards for the physiological monitoring of wearable devices and the further rollout to the RPH and AHS ED rollout.
- The Board also noted the strategies across EMHS focusing on reducing the EMHS WA Elective Surgery Target (WEST).
- The Board acknowledged the hard work of staff across the whole organisation including their commitment to providing exceptional care and treatment to all of our EMHS consumers.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 31 May 2022.

Mr Ian Smith
Chair, East Metropolitan Health Service Board