



Communique

June 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 June 2023 was held at Bentley Health Service in D Block Conference Room. The meeting commenced at 11.30am and concluded at 5.00pm.

Chief Executive's update

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

The Board received an update on the Department of Health Service Level Agreement, the EMHS Emergency Access Program – particularly in relation to the reduction of patient length of stay and the announcement of a new Mental Health Commissioner.

Presentations

The Board welcomed Vinesh Gupta and Jason Ellis the mental health Leads from across EMHS who provided an overview of current area of focus across the services. The mental health leads outlined workforce and attracting suitably skilled workforce across mental health areas remains a struggle and a priority. Several initiatives have commenced over the past month to upskill staff currently working within the mental health areas across EMHS.

The Board were advised that the EMHS Eating Disorder Service will officially commence on 8 August 2023.

The Board welcomed several Nurse Unit Managers from across RPBG who provided an overview of their roles on the wards to the Board. The Board were pleased to hear that nursing graduates have elected to come back to RPH for their placements.

There has been a focus on upskilling nursing staff across RPBG with staff taking up opportunities to transfer between sites to upskill and share their knowledge and experience.

Board reports

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

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. High Pressure Injury rates remain an issue. A comprehensive action plan is progressing and on track with reporting through to the Comprehensive Care Committee.



- The EMHS Board Audit & Risk Committee Chair tabled a summary of key areas of focus for the Committee. EMHS Integrity & Ethics presented to the Committee on focus areas of conflict of interests and contracted medical practitioners.
- A briefing was provided on Cyber-security and how this is being managed across EMHS.
- The newly formed EMHS Board Operational Performance & Strategy Committee held their inaugural meeting this month with discussion points focused on Digital, Research and Innovation, Workforce and Clinical Services.
- The EMHS Board Finance Committee Chair provided an overview of EMHS activity and financial performance for May 2023.

James MacWatt presented updates on major capital projects business cases/funding updates, which includes the proposed Surgicentre at Bentley Health Service, Emergency Department redevelopment at Royal Perth Hospital, 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.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held at Armadale Health Service on Tuesday 25 July 2023.

Pia Turcinov AM
Chair, EMHS Board