



SMHS Board Communiqué

Excellent health care, every time

September 2022 Meeting

This Communiqué highlights key discussions of interest at the South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) Board's Board meeting which was held at Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) on Thursday 29 September 2022.



Before Board this month, Board members enjoyed a visit to the Mental Health unit at FSH. Board members heard from Nurse Director Sharon and Nurse Unit Manager Maureen on the operation of the FSH adult, youth and Mother and Baby units.

Each month, a Board member is asked to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which the Board meets. This month, Deputy Chair Kim Gibson reflected on a Tate Modern exhibition she viewed during her recent travels - *A Year in Art: Australia 1992* - which highlighted the landmark 1992 High Court ruling in favour of Torres Strait Islander land-rights activist Edward Koiki Mabo, and explores the ongoing impact of colonisation, social injustice and the complexities of representation in Australian society today. Kim reflected that this display in another country invites a different lens in

looking at Australia's complex history, and applying this more broadly, we can seek a range of perspectives and views to improve the work we do.

At each Board meeting, members consider patient stories early in the meeting to ensure that the patient is always at the forefront of our considerations. This month's patient stories included discussion about a palliative care patient at Rockingham General Hospital and the support provided to the patient to enable them to have a dignified death in a caring environment.

This month's Board meeting included Board reports and discussion of the following items:

- The Peel Health Campus transition to SMHS from August 2023. The project will also see the redevelopment of the existing public hospital and a new private hospital built to be co-located with PHC.
- An update on Rockingham General Hospital's (RGH) recent accreditation against the national standards by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. The standards describe the level of care that should be provided by health service organisations and the systems needed to deliver such care.
- An update from the executive observer, Area Director of Nursing and Midwifery Ged Williams.

The Chief Executive's report this month included updates on the following:

- The continued management of COVID-19 including recent changes to testing clinic opening times and the opening of a new rapid access testing (RAT) clinic at FSH.
- Ongoing work being done to ease the pressure on hospital emergency departments and improve access to elective surgery.

- The Murdoch Medihotel, which is being built adjacent to the FSH site in Murdoch and is due to open in 2023.
- The opening of a new outpatient facility at RGH, which is helping to accommodate an increased demand for outpatient services and allowing for further expansion in group and telehealth services.
- The second SMHS Leadership Alumni event which was held on 27 September 2022. Minister Dawson, Minister for Research and Innovation presented to staff at the event.

Board members very much enjoy having the opportunity to get out to the sites across SMHS and meet staff and see our facilities. This time the Board was pleased to meet with members of the FSFHG Executive team to say a huge thank you for the work they have been undertaking recently, particularly in managing the pressures of such busy sites. *Pictured below are members of FSFHG Health Executive team with the SMHS Board.*



In the Board Chair's report, I commended members of the SMHS Executive and the entire team for their hard work managing our services in very challenging circumstances over the past few months. I also reflected on the recent ACHSM Congress that was held in Perth where a number of SMHS staff presented and I highlighted the upcoming SMHS Excellence Awards.

Chairs and members of the Board Committees provided reports on the issues considered at their most recent meetings and highlighted specific items including:

- The Safety and Quality Committee discussed the RGH accreditation held in September and the FSFHG accreditation which will be reevaluated in October. The Committee also discussed regular safety and quality reports as well as the emergency and elective access recovery program.
- The Finance and Governance Committee discussed the finance, activity and staffing reports, reviewed contract management reports, approved a business case and discussed a schedule for site visits to see the work of SMHS' major contractors.
- The Audit and Risk Committee considered the audit log, corporate risks, internal audits, the litigation schedule and integrity and ethics matters.

The next regular meeting of the SMHS Board is scheduled for Monday 24 October 2022 at Murray District Hospital.

Adjunct Associate Professor Robyn Collins
Board Chair, South Metropolitan Health Service
5 October 2022



This Board meeting was held during the Noongar season of Djilba – the season of conception. Djilba is August to September, which is a time of transition, with some very cold and clear days mixed with warmer, rainy and windy days.