

Meeting of the Board of the Western Sydney Local Health District

No. 2021/110

Date: Thursday 18 March, 2021

Venue: L104, WECC, Westmead Hospital

Minutes

- Present: Richard Alcock (Chair)
Narelle Bell
Andrew Bernard
Michael Edye
Mick Reid
Keith Hartman
Loretta Di Mento (Deputy Chair)
Debra Thoms
Diana O'Halloran
Don Nutbeam
- Ex Officio Invitees: Graeme Loy, Chief Executive
Tiffany Sly, Director, Office of the Chief Executive
Caroline Farmer, Director, Nursing, Midwifery & Clinical Governance (DNMCG)
Peter Hockey, A/Executive Director Medical Services (A/EDMS)
- Medical Staff Council: Mark Priestley (Chair, Westmead Medical Staff Council)
- Invited Guests: Luci Caswell, Director People & Culture
Sree Brahmapuram, Health Management Intern
- Apologies: Emma McCahon, A/Executive Director Operations (A/EDO)
Barry Mitrevski, Director of Finance (DoF)
- Secretariat: Joyce Semaan, Governance Officer, Office of the Chief Executive
- Meeting commenced: 3:00pm
- Quorum: A quorum was met

Item 1 PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Item 1.1 Welcome and apologies

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed all present and invited one of the Board members to give the Acknowledgement of Country.

Item 1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

It was acknowledged that the meeting is taking place on the land of the Darug people, who are the traditional owners. Respects were paid to Elders past and present and that respect was extended to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples present.

It was noted the Board meeting was being held on Close the Gap day. The Board heard examples of how discrimination against Aboriginal people persists.

Item 1.3 Declarations of Changes in Material Circumstances

Members were asked to declare:

- i. Conflicts of interest in relation to the agenda and
- ii. Changes in material circumstance.

Action and decision: There were no declarations of interest or any changes in material circumstances.

Item 1.4 Minutes of previous meetings

The Chair invited comments on the minutes of the December joint board meeting and the February meeting.

There were no comments in relation to the minutes of the February meeting.

Action and decision: The February minutes were accepted and taken as a true record of the meeting.

The Chair advised the Board would report back to the PHN regarding matters raised at the joint Board meeting. The December minutes were otherwise accepted and taken as a true record of the meeting.

Item 1.5 Actions from previous meetings

No outstanding actions.

Item 1.6 Patient Story

The DNMCG shared a story about a long-term mental health patient who has been able to leave Cumberland and be supported in the community.

The Board discussed the challenges with helping long-term patients move into the community and the commitment it requires from a multidisciplinary team.

Action and decision: Members noted the information.

Item 2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

Item 2.1 Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive took the report as read and raised some items for further discussion.

Volunteers have returned to the District after being away for more than a year due to COVID-19.

The CE gave an update on Blacktown Hospital.

The District will start work around developing an academic plan which will start with medical/clinical staff but will be expanded to include allied health and nursing/midwifery.

The CE noted that feedback from the assessors has been very positive with some minor items to address.

Action and decision: The Board noted the update.

Item 3 PRESENTATIONS

Item 3.1 Culture Update

The Director People & Culture (DPC), gave a presentation to the Board and provided updates on the culture work across the District.

Action and decision: The Board noted the update.

Item 4 STANDING ITEMS

Item 4.1 COVID-19 Update

The CE noted the vaccination hub at Westmead is functioning well and the District is meeting its targets. The District is preparing to open additional clinics.

The PHN is supporting GPs to prepare to deliver vaccinations in the community.

Public education continues despite the state being on green alert as COVID-19 remains an infectious disease. The District has significant screening capacity and can respond quickly as required.

Item 4.2 Mental Health Service Report

The Chair provided an update and invited questions and comments from the Board.

Action and decision: The Board noted the report provided.

Item 4.3 Finance Report

The Chair invited questions and comments from the Board.

Action and decision: The Board noted the report provided.

Item 4.4 Operations Report

The Chair invited questions and comments from the Board. There was no further discussion.

Action and decision: The Board noted the report provided.

Item 4.5 Clinical Governance Report

The Director Nursing, Midwifery & Clinical Governance (DNMCG) took the report as read, providing an additional update on key items.

Action and decision: The Board noted the report provided.

Item 4.6 Integrated Care & Community Health Report

There was some discussion on what this service will look like with respect to co-commissioning. Co-commissioning aims to shift the way patients access health care, from hospitals to the community. The District will begin targeting investments with the current focus on equity of access.

Action and decision: The Board noted the report provided.

Item 5 NEW BUSINESS

No new business

Item 6 DOCUMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT

Item 6.1 Verification of Identity Relating to Property Matters

A brief on the matter was tabled with the meeting papers.

Action and decision: The Board voted to endorse the recommendation in the Brief.

Item 6.2 Rouse Hill Hospital site acquisition and announcement

A brief on the matter was tabled with the meeting papers.

Action and decision: The Board voted to endorse the new site for the Rouse Hill Hospital.

Item 7 COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD

Item 7.1 Audit and Risk Committee

No further updates

Item 7.2 Finance, Performance & Asset Management Committee

No further updates

Item 7.3 Health Care Quality Committee

No further updates

Item 7.4 Nominations Committee

The Chair of the Nominations Committee gave an update.

Action and decision: The Board noted the information.

Item 7.5 Research Development Committee

No further updates

Item 7.6 Professional Education Committee

No further updates

Item 8 ITEMS FOR NOTING ONLY

Item 8.1 Record of meetings for Board Chair and Deputy Chair

Noted

Item 8.2 Correspondence received & sent

Noted

Item 8.3 SafeWork NSW Improvement Notices

Noted

Item 8.4 Brief for the Board – Update on the Henry Review March 2021

The Board noted an update on the Henry Review.

Action and decision: The Board noted the information.

Item 8.5 Brief for the Board – Improvements to Security in Hospitals – Peter Anderson final report release

The interim report was released in February 2019, with some recommendations. The final report is now available.

Action and decision: The Board noted the information.

Item 9 OTHER BUSINESS

CASB Opening

The Premier, Minister and others are attending the official opening of the CASB on Monday 22 March.

Next meeting

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 15 April 2021 at Mount Druitt Hospital.

Close

Meeting closed at 6:50 pm

Signed: _____

Mr Richard Alcock AO, Board Chair