Board Communique

2 October 2025

The Board met 2 October 2025 at Perth Children's Hospital, the first meeting chaired by the newly appointed Board Chair Dr Neale Fong.

The Board welcomed Ms Kelly Worlock and Dr Peter Steer as new members and noted that recruitment for remaining positions is in progress.

The Board acknowledged the outgoing Chair, Ms Pamela Michael and Board Members Dr Alexius Julian, Prof Dan McAullay and Dr Shane Kelly who concluded their terms on 30 September 2025. The Board expressed gratitude for their leadership and dedication in steering the organisation through periods of challenge and achievement, ensuring that families of WA remain central to CAHS's mission and care.

In a joint session with the Executive team, the Board outlined their expectations and governance approach, reaffirming a shared commitment to partnership and collaborative leadership. The Board emphasised the importance of open dialogue and diverse perspectives as the cornerstones of effective governance and organisational excellence. The Board's focus will remain on strengthening the alignment between strategy and operations to ensure delivery of the highest standard of care for the children and families of Western Australia.

Members attending:	**In Attendance:**	**Apologies:**
Dr Neale Fong, Board Chair	Mr Michel Hutchings, A/CE	Ms Kelly Worlock
Mr John McLean	Ms Ashlee Wells, DOCE	Ms Meghan Maor
Prof Karen Strickland		
Prof Eli Gabbay		
Dr Peter Steer		

KEY MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

The Board discussed key areas of reform underway within the Child and Adolescent Community Health service, supporting the Executive Director in implementing measures to reduce waiting lists for the Child Development Services and lifting immunisation rates through strengthened partnerships with stakeholders.

The Board expressed support for the reform agenda and the implementation approach led by the Executive Director, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, aimed at expanding service accessibility and ensuring that children and adolescents across the state receive the care they need.

The Board acknowledged the positive outcomes of the winter surge strategy within the Perth Children's Hospital Emergency Department. They discussed demand and capacity planning, as well as ongoing initiatives to reduce the Elective Surgery Waiting List. The Board discussed workforce planning and the initiatives associated with outpatient model of care.

The Board reaffirmed their commitment to the workforce, discussing initiatives to support staff wellbeing and professional development.

The Board discussed strategic priorities, underscoring the vital role of research in reinforcing CAHS's leadership in clinical innovation both locally and internationally, bringing world-class treatment closer to home.

KEY MATTERS FOR DECISION

The Board endorsed a 2025-26 Service Level Agreement between the Child and Adolescent Health Service and the Mental Health Commission.

ITEMS FOR NOTING

- Safety and Quality Committee Chair's Report, including Theatre Key Performance Indicators and Aboriginal Health Practitioner Evaluation at PCH Emergency Department
- Finance Committee Chair's Report, including adjustments to the Mid-Year Review submissions.
- People, Capability and Culture Committee Chair's Report, including the Work Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report and an update on major projects of the Medical Services
- Legal Update
- CAHS Performance Report
- Consumer Experience Moment
- Consumer Leadership Council Update

NEXT MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held at Perth Children's Hospital on 7 November 2025

Dr Neale Fong
BOARD CHAIR
October 2025