



Communique

Child and Adolescent Health Service

This communiqué highlights key discussions from the Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) Board's November 2021 meeting as well as other important information.

November 2021 Board Meeting

The tenth Board Meeting for 2021 was held on 4 November 2021 in the Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) Boardroom.

Consumer Engagement

The Board Chair met with the Chair of the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) and made initial contact with the Chair of the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) and advised the Board that both Chairs would be invited to attend the Board meeting on a bi-monthly basis and that the minutes of both committees would be tabled at the Board meeting on a monthly basis.

The Board discussed management and reporting of complaints made to CAHS including concerns about timeliness of and language used within responses. The Board recommended that all complaints are investigated within the Clinical Incident Management System as per SAC1 incidents with recommendations developed and implemented and reporting as per the governance framework.

The Board discussed 5 complaints made by consumers regarding:

- patient and family access to care and mobility equipment within Perth Children's Hospital (PCH);
- patient lack of access to transition services for neurology services;
- patient experience within the Eating Disorder Services (EDS);
- issues for autistic children in verbalising pain and access to medication; and
- family difficulties in accessing appropriate psychiatric and autistic assessment services in a timely manner.

The Board requested that the Executive investigate and provide an update to them regarding improving access to services including neurology, psychiatry and autism.

The Board noted the YAC minutes and discussed:

- feedback from their visit to the Child Protection Unit and concerns regarding the environment triggering past trauma and causing harm;
- implementation of the Child Illness Peer Support working group; and
- the Kids Experience Survey with the Board requesting an update at the end of the project regarding results.

The Board noted the CAC minutes and discussed:

- the appointment of a Bereavement Support Officer and the work of the Ivy Barclay Foundation in supporting families with sudden bereavement; and
- the need to capture feedback from Department of Communities (DoC) carers due to the number of children presenting at CAHS services with DoC carers.

Board Committees

The Board received reports from its four Standing Committees as follows:

Chief Executive Update

The Board received a verbal update from the CE including:

- progress related to the DOH directive for a 25% Establishment Uplift;
- COVID-19 preparedness including development of the 100-day living with COVID-19 plan;
- electronic medical record (EMR) and Digital Health Business Case submission;
- update regarding the Aluminium Cladding Program (ACP) remediation works for PCH and King Edward Memorial Hospital for women (KEMH);
- KEMH parking for staff and patients; and
- COVID-19 staff vaccination program.

The Board noted actions related to:

- incorporation of confidentiality agreements within the root cause analysis (RCA) process;
- investigation of partnerships to undertake two (2) year old health checks;
- review of the sexual harassment policy;
- implementation of Aishwarya's CARE Call;
- development of the ward medical equipment list;
- implementation of the PARROT version 3 chart;
- culturally and linguistically diverse training options; and
- the quarterly report outlining number of disputes before Courts, Tribunals and Commissions.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

The Board were provided with an update regarding CAMHS services and reform and discussed the implementation of the recommendations from the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist Review into the death of Kate Savage. The Board noted the concerns raised regarding the ability to implement recommendations without confirmed funding from the Medical Health Commission but requested that the Executive proceed with the implementation plan.

The Board were provided with an overview of the EDS inpatient service reform including a functional brief outlining infrastructure requirements. The Board noted the re-opening of day program and transition service in quarter 1 2022 and requested that the Business Case for EDS be submitted to the November 2021 Finance Committee for endorsement.

Clinical Incident and Recommendations Report

The Board noted the report and discussed reporting of clinical incidents in Neonatology services, medication errors, progress of closing out recommendations for all investigations, alignment of language within SAC1 reports with the CAHS multicultural plan, and staff participation within RCA investigations.

Other Matters

The Board received updates regarding:

- progress of the Implementation Oversight Committee regarding recommendations associated with the RCA into Aishwarya Aswath's death;
- CAHS progress within the Accreditation survey occurring simultaneously as the November Board meeting;
- Midland and Murdoch Hub project progress;
- development of the CAHS Reconciliation Action Plan; and
- quarterly report on the CAHS Child Safe Action Plan.

The Board received reports from its four Standing Committees as follows:

Safety and Quality Committee

The Board noted and discussed:

- the draft minutes of the meeting 12 October 2021;
- the implementation of the recommendations of the Review Report into Kate Savage's death;
- that the Committee continues to monitor the extreme risk associated with the Neonatal Emergency Transport Service (NETS) and progress against the review report completed by Ernst and Young (EY);
- the review of the Striving for Excellence clinical audit and its ability to be used by clinical services to meet accreditation standards.

Finance Committee

The Board noted:

- the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 26 October 2021; and
- that the Committee currently does not have an appropriately qualified finance member due to the resignation of Ms Kathleen Bozanic. The Board Chair advised that recruitment to the position was ongoing.

The Board discussed the impact of local government authority (LGA) rental increases on CAHS community facilities and the need to undertake a review of rental options for these sites; and endorsed the approval of the 2021-22 CAHS Annual Estimates.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Board noted:

- the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) of 20 October 2021.

The Board discussed the recommendations from this meeting including:

- concern regarding the timeliness of closing out audit actions and progress against the CAHS Risk dashboard;

- the CAHS Centre of Excellences Pilot Audit report for Diabetes services, incorporation of consumer engagement and CaLD in the foundational elements and the use of the Audit as a framework for other service reviews;
- allocation of funds to complete the Disaster Recovery exercise; and
- development of operating manuals to support the Business Continuity Plans for critical medical and lower acuity devices.

The Board discussed and endorsed the amendments made by the ARC to the Risk Assessment Tables (RAT) with correspondence to be provided to the DoH to also accept the changes.

People, Capability and Culture Committee

The Board noted that there was no People Capability and Culture Committee meeting in October 2021.

Board Activity

The Board Chair continued to meet with key stakeholders within CAHS including:

- the Chief Executive Officer of Nature Play WA regarding development of the Northern play area adjacent to the Kids Bridge;
- attending a CAHS Shape Our Future Committee meeting; and
- the Chair of the CAHS Clinical Advisory Group.

The Board Chair participated in the CAHS Long Service Award Presentations and visited the CAHS PCH Child Care Centre, PCH Family Resource Centre, Kulunga Moort Mia and Telethon Kids Institute (TKI) Discovery Centre and attended meetings with the Minister for Health and Director General.

The Board discussed the Northern Greenspace Upgrade project with the Director Aboriginal Health advising that she had informed the plan including areas for children adolescents and staff and cultural links with Kings Park.

The Board noted the progression towards a Strategic Planning Day with Mr Peter Mott identified as the Board sponsor. Pre work would be required by CAHS directorates to inform discussion as to strategic priorities and consumer representatives would be invited.

Next Meeting

The Board will meet again on Thursday 4 November 2021.



Dr Rosanna Capolingua
Board Chair
Child and Adolescent Health Service
24 November 2021