Government of Western Australia
Child and Adolescent Health Service

Board Communique

This Communique highlights key discussions from the Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS) Board meeting held on 4 September 2025, at Perth Children's Hospital.

Ms Pamela Michael, Board Chair

BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Ms Pamela Michael advised that from 1 October she would no longer serve as the Board Chair and member of the CAHS Board. Dr Alexius Julian and Dr Shane Kelly confirmed that their terms would also conclude on 30 September.

They each reflected on their experiences and achievements and thanked the Senior Leadership Group and support staff for their efforts and contributions. They wished ongoing and incoming Board members well with their future endeavours.

THE HON STEPHEN DAWSON MLC, MINISTER FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

The Board welcomed the Hon Stephen Dawson MLC to the meeting to discuss medical research. Key topics included: the Future Health and Research and Innovation Fund Strategy, planning for the commissioning of a Health and Biomedical Precinct located at the QEII Medical Centre, and the clinical trials roadmap noting $6M was allocated to help bring Clinical Trails WA together.

The CAHS Director of Research Operations and Area Director of Research, Ms Alexandra Robertson and Prof Tim Jones, shared updates which included: the opening of 38 new clinical trials in 2024, and that CAHS anticipated to open a similar number of clinical trials in 2025.

The Board discussed opportunities to quantify the benefits of clinical trials given that some may take up to 10 years to materialise, ongoing work to align with The Kids Institute and the Human Research Ethics Committee process. They thanked Minister Dawson for his attendance and presentation.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT COMMUNITY HEALTH (CACH)

The Board discussed the report as provided and noted the imminent centralisation of bookings through an online system. Following external analysis of the Child Development Service key activities were identified to improve the waitlist.

Recommendations focussed on improving efficiency, communication and utilisation of appointments.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH (CAMHS)

The Board discussed the report as provided and noted that Crisis Connect will launch in the Southwest region from mid-September. They discussed that the Bentley Clinic space will be vacated at the end of September.

PERTH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND NEONATOLOGY (PCH&N)

The Board discussed the report as provided and noted the effectiveness of the Winter strategy, the commencement of Nurse Practitioners and a Social Worker in the Emergency Department, and expansion of The Hospital in the Home (HiTH) program to 24 beds and 8 beds for remote monitoring.

The Board congratulated the HiTH Remote Monitoring Team for receiving the Outstanding Patient Innovation Award at the Patient Australia Awards Gala. This national recognition highlights the team's incredible work in delivering compassionate, technology enabled care to children and families.

AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE

The Board noted the Audit and Risk Committee Chair's Report, draft minutes and recommendations arising from the meeting held **19 August 2025.** Key discussion items included: the Annual Internal Audit Performance report, progress on medical equipment maintenance, the Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Program 2025-26, and high and extreme risk movements.

SAFETY AND QUALITY COMMITTEE

The Board noted the Safety and Quality Committee Chair's Report, draft minutes and recommendations arising from the meeting held **12 August 2025.** Key discussion items included: SAC 2 clinical incidents, Touchstone's quarterly report, and the CAHS Clinical Variation Framework 2025. The Board endorsed Dr Eli Gabbay as a new member of the Safety and Quality Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Board noted the Finance Committee Chair's Report, draft minutes and recommendations arising from the meeting held **26 August 2025.** Key discussion items included: Approval of the Final 2024-25 Effectiveness Key Performance Indicators, the 2025-26 Service Level Agreement with Health Support Services, financial performance projections, full-time equivalents management, new payment plan processes for the recovery of overseas patient debt, and the WA Children's Hospice Business Case.

NEXT MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on **2 October 2025,** at Perth Children's Hospital.