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Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service

NMHS Board Communiqué

October 2026

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 2 October 2026 at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Nedlands, in the Noongar Season of Kambarang.



Kambarang brings longer and warmer days and decreasing rain. It is wildflower season with an abundance of colours and flowers in bloom.

Board members present

Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick, Board Chair
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman
Anthony Evans
Renaë Farmer
Anthony Hume
Angela Komninos
Andrea LeGuier
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Dr Ian Rogers

Apologies

Jahna Cedar OAM

Approvals and endorsements

- NMHS Strategic Asset Plan 2026-2036
- SOC/AC Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Program Annual Report
- Financial accounting and reporting requirements
- Annual Board Committee work plan

Events and achievements

- Virginia Mason Institute Future Health Leaders Australia, hosted by the SMHS

Safety moment

In supporting its ongoing commitment to work health and safety, the Board shared a safety moment from Renal Medicine and acknowledged the contribution of staff in identifying and addressing risks to strengthen safe care and workplace practices.

Consumer Reflection stories

The Board considered recent consumer feedback to the Cancer, Imaging and Clinical Services Division, in the context of the NMHS values, and reflected on the valuable insights it provides in supporting continuous improvement and making our services better and safer, to deliver excellent health care.

Presentations to the Board

The Board welcomed the Director General who briefed members on the work underway across the WA health system to ensure Western Australian patients and communities continue to have access to safe and high-quality health care. Strategic priorities included financial sustainability, current and planned investment in public health infrastructure, and uplift in hospital capacity across the State to support patient care and relieve pressure on the public waitlist. Additional matters included the transition of King Edward Memorial Hospital to the new Health Service Provider for women, newborns and children, and planned review of 2026 Winter Strategy initiatives.

Board Chair and Chief Executive update

Our updates and considerations focussed on review of current issues and reports.

Board Chair

Discussions and reflections included:

- Outcomes from recent key stakeholder meetings
- Board Committee appointments
- Forthcoming professional development opportunities
- Acknowledgement of the invaluable contribution by outgoing Board member Mrs Jahna Cedar OAM

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Progress of the Operating Model Review, including recruitment to executive positions
- Progress of the Older Adult Hub in the North Metropolitan catchment, which will offer multidisciplinary services to older adults
- Bethesda Mount Hospital
- Performance, including access to emergency, elective surgery and outpatient program services

Visits and engagement

- Board tours, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital:
 - Renal Medicine and Transplantation
 - Medical Technology and Physics



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BOARD CHAIR, NMHS

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[Our Board and communiques](#)



[Minister for Health's Statement of Expectations](#)
[NMHS's Statement of Intent](#)

Next Board meeting

Friday, 6 November 2026
King Edward Memorial Hospital, Subiaco

- Highlights, risks, and areas of focus from each of the operational areas

Board Committee updates

The minutes and a summary from each of our Board Committee meetings were provided by the respective Chairs.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Board received a formal briefing from the Office of the Auditor General following conclusion of the annual financial and information systems audits.

The Committee considered the annual SOC/ compliance obligations, and refreshed, ten-year NMHS Strategic Asset Plan, the latter of which will inform priority capital business cases and investments to address our ageing facilities and respond to growing demand for healthcare services.

The Committee reflected on the rapidly evolving Artificial Intelligence landscape, its duties as a Board as well as responsible use and adoption by the organisation.

The Committee reviewed reports on legislative and regulatory compliance obligations, and considered the progress of internal and external audits. In addition, it reviewed the organisation's strategic risks, and proposed internal audit scopes to support oversight of risk, assurance and compliance.

Finance Committee

The Committee received its regular update on performance and activity from the Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group as well as a status update on procurement and contracts, and capital infrastructure projects and related works, which are at varying stages of progress.

The Committee considered the implications of service divestment following recent announcement of the new health service provider for women newborns and children.

In addition, reports and discussions focussed on performance, activity, budget and staffing trends, including strategies to ensure financial sustainability were reviewed.

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

No meeting held in September.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee received a presentation from the Head of Anaesthesia, who showcased its strong safety and quality performance as well as a novel quality improvement initiative that is improving outcomes for non-elective surgery patients and supporting the wellbeing of the clinical workforce. In addition, Bethesda Health Care was welcomed to share progress of a newly developed tool to assess falls risk in patients with life limiting illness, and performance against National Palliative Care Outcomes.

The Sir Charles Gairdner Osborne Park Health Care Group provided its regular update on safety and quality performance.

The monthly consumer experience, safety and quality performance and trends were reviewed, with focus on activities/initiatives related to continuous improvement, quality assurance and embedding a safety culture