



OFFICIAL

NMHS Board Communiqué

September 2025

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations of the NMHS Board meeting held on Friday, 5 September 2025 at Osborne Park Hospital, Stirling, in the Noongar Season of Djilba.



Djilba (first spring) is a transitional time of the year, with some very cold and clear days combining with warmer, rainy and windy days mixing with the occasional sunny day or two.

Board members present

Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick, Board Chair
Jahna Cedar OAM
Assoc Prof Mathew Coleman
Anthony Evans
Renaë Farmer
Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon
Dr Ian Rogers
Rebecca Strom

Apologies

Angela Komninos

Approvals and endorsements

- Australian Health Service Safety and Quality Accreditation Scheme Annual Governing Body Attestation Statements
- Board Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference
- *Security of Critical Infrastructure (SOCl) Act 2018* Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Program Annual Report

Our Community and Our People: embedding our values

Reflections on consumer feedback and insights, as they relate to the NMHS values, are a regular focus for the Board. This month the Board heard stories from Osborne Park Hospital patients about their healthcare experiences and the response being taken to address concerns to make our services better and safer, as well as a testimonial on the excellent and empathic care provided by our staff.

Presentations to the Board

The Board received a briefing from members of the Executive on population demographics, characteristics and health status of Western Australians as well as for the NMHS geographical catchment. The briefing highlighted challenges of a growing and ageing population, increasing complexity of disease, emerging trends and other changing population needs.

The Board noted the recently released NMHS Population Profile 2025 will assist the organisation to meet future and evolving needs of our community by informing local clinical service planning, including workforce and infrastructure. The Board acknowledged opportunity for engagement with key Government agencies to guide service directions and delivery as the City of Stirling is planning significant residential infill around Osborne Park Hospital.

The Board also received an update on a comprehensive service improvement program to transform delivery and access to outpatient care and elective surgery in response to growing demand, and reports on the progress of major infrastructure projects.

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
- Planned horizon review of the Strategic Plan
- Professional development opportunities

Chief Executive

This month's report included updates on:

- Key priorities for 2025/26, which are focussed on accessible, safe, high-quality care and financial sustainability
- Winter strategy, and capacity and demand optimisation

Events and achievements

- NMHS Corporate Operation Leadership Forum

Visits and engagement

- Board tours, Osborne Park Hospital:
 - Site works as part of the new Women and Babies Hospital Project
 - Ward 7, Rehabilitation Medicine



NMHS Corporate Operations Leadership Forum

(L-R): Jordan Kelly, Chief Corporate Operations Officer; Mrs Renae Farmer, Board Finance Committee Chair; and, Assoc Prof Lewis MacKinnon, Board Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee Chair.



Adj Assoc Prof Karen Gullick
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, 3 October 2025

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, QEII Medical Centre, Nedlands

- Highlights, risks, and areas of focus from each of the operational areas
- Draft NMHS Annual Report 2025

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 Committee received a water assurance report, which showed comprehensive water quality testing and management activities continue to be effective in ensuring water across NMHS's facilities is safe. In addition, the organisation's governance framework for Artificial Intelligence and its role in fostering enablement was discussed.

The Committee considered assurance obligations under the *Security of Critical Infrastructure Act 2018*, and reviewed reports on legislative and regulatory compliance obligations, as well as the progress of internal and external audits, and strategic risks.

Finance Committee

The Committee received an update on the 2025-26 Mid-year Review budget submission process and reviewed the draft Financial Statements of the NMHS Annual Report 2025.

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

People, Engagement and Culture Committee

This month's focus was Aboriginal Employment.

The Committee received a presentation about activities to proactively manage talent acquisition and career development opportunities for Aboriginal people. In addition, there were updates on culture and engagement activities by Mental Health Services Dental Health Services and on an intervention program to manage behaviours of concern and keep our staff and patients safe.

Performance and compliance reports for work health and safety, staff wellbeing, as well as operational matters were also reviewed.

Safety, Quality and Consumer Engagement Committee

The Committee received an informative presentation from the Genetic Health WA team who provided an overview of the State-wide service, and a safety and quality update by the Women and Newborn Health Service.

In addition, the Committee considered the annual governance attestation statements for NMHS's three hospitals, and reviewed strategic risks and accreditation preparedness for Short Notice Assessment.

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