

Minutes for ISLHD Board Meeting and APM

11/12/2023 | 01:30 PM - 04:30 PM - AEST

Microsoft Teams

Agenda

The Board Chair, Chris Bertinshaw opened the meeting at 1.31pm, held via Microsoft Teams.

ITEM 1: ISLHD Annual Public Meeting

The Board held the 2023 Annual Public Meeting via live stream for COVID safety.

ITEM 3: Chairs Consultation

The Chair confirmed Members had no issues to raise regarding the agenda.

ITEM 4: Welcome

4.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Board Chair stated that the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District is committed to reconciliation with the First Nations Peoples for whom the lands on which the District operates are their traditional lands.

He acknowledged the ancestors of that country and paid respects to elders past, present and future.

He expressed his gratitude that we share these lands today, his sorrow for the costs of that sharing, and hope and belief that we can move to a place of equity, justice and partnership together.

4.2 Attendance

Mr Chris Bertinshaw, Board Chair

Ms Janine Cullen OAM, Deputy Chair

The Hon. David Campbell, Board Member

Dr Richard Morris AM. BM., Board Member

Dr Rodney McMahon, Board Member

Dr Jenny Collins, Board Member

Ms Suzi Clapham, Board Member

Mr Alan Hudson, Board Member

Mr Nick Mitrevski, Board Member
Mr Jonathan Boswell, Board Member
Ms Marilyn Smith OAM, Board Member
Mr Peter McDonald, Board Member

In attendance:

Ms Margot Mains, Chief Executive
Dr Josh Rijdsdijk, Chair Medical Staff Council
Ms Angela Twist, Board Secretary (minutes).

In attendance for item 6.3

Ms Jessica De Angelis, A/Executive Director Strategy, Risk, Planning and Performance.

In attendance for item 6.1 to 6.3

Ms Suzanne Harris, Executive Director Infrastructure and Assets

In attendance for item 8

Mr Damien Van Rosmalen, Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services

4.3 Apologies

There were no apologies for this meeting.

4.4 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests.

ITEM 5: Business from the last meeting

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes - 30 October 2023

The Chair invited comments or amendments to the draft minutes of the ISLHD Board meeting held on 30 October 2023 and receiving none, they were adopted as a true and accurate record.

5.2 Actions Arising

The Board noted the actions arising and closed action 264/23.

ITEM 6: Strategic Matters

6.1 ISLHD Quarterly Risk Report

The Board noted the risk management and corporate governance updates, which were received by the Audit and Risk Committee on 30 November 2023. The Audit and Risk Committee discussed possible amendments to some risk ratings, which will be provided to the Board in the next iteration of the report.

6.2 Quarterly Board Report

The Board noted the information provided on the NSW Health Quarterly Board Report – April to June 2023.

6.3 Capital Works and Planning Updates

Sue Harris and Jessica DeAngelis joined the meeting at 1.37pm.

The Board noted the updates on the capital works projects and confirmed the \$7.5 million capital investment in Milton Ulladulla Hospital is in addition to the \$21.9M Restart NSW Funding.

Dr Joshua Rijdsdijk, Chair of the Northern Illawarra Medical Staff Council raised concerns from clinicians regarding the Medical Ambulatory Care (MAC) Unit and Transit Lounge project. Concerns included the space taken away from the University of Wollongong Graduate School of Medicine and issues related to the lifts, given it will likely increase traffic.

The Chief Executive (CE) and Executive Director Infrastructure and Assets (EDIA) advised they have been in direct conversation with the University of Wollongong regarding the space and they will continue to be involved in the plans. Following the completion of a Whole of Government contract regarding lift maintenance, Schindler Australia provided a final report, which was not deemed to be conclusive enough and therefore further information has been sought.

The Board further queried the District's management of asbestos in leased premises. The EDIA advised commercial properties are legislatively required to complete a hazardous material audit every 5 years. Further review of the contracts has shown the outcome of those audits should be provided to the District, which the leasing team are following up on. The Board discussed the

need for more accurate records and to clearly understand the work health and safety obligations of the District.

ACTION 265/23: Chief Executive to update the Board on the MAC Unit and Transit Lounge project following further discussions with the clinicians and University. (Assignee(s): Chief Executive; Due Date: 26/02/2024)

ACTION 266/23: Chief Executive to provide an update on any progression with transport around Wollongong Hospital. (Assignee(s): Chief Executive; Due Date: 26/02/2024)

ACTION 267/23: Chief Executive to provide information on the data related to asbestos in leased properties and what the organisations work health and safety obligations are. (Assignee(s): Chief Executive; Due Date: 26/02/2024)

ITEM 7: For Decision

7.1 ISLHD Board Handbook

The Board Chair advised the Board of the changes to the ISLHD Board Handbook which included:

- changes to the process for Board payments following an internal audit on same
- clearly stipulating the Board's position that harassment of any sort will not be tolerated within the organisation.

The Board noted amendments were required to:

- section 3.9 stating 'The Board or Committee may approve the use of videoconference facilities to conduct a meeting if it is deemed appropriate'.
- 3.11 - Voting to include the use of online voting via Diligent Boards.

RESOLUTION 2023/103: The Board approved the revisions to the Board Handbook, Version 9 following the amendments discussed.

ITEM 8: Committee Reports

The Board noted the report and requested an update from the Chief Executive on the outcomes of the People Matter Employee Survey (PMES) operational working group.

ACTION 268/23: Chief Executive to provide an update on the outcomes of the PMES operational working group. (Assignee(s): Chief Executive; Due Date: 26/02/2024)

ITEM 9: Chief Executive Report

The Board noted the Chief Executive's report and discussed the monthly performance meeting with the Ministry of Health held 1 November 2023 at length. The District continues to request adequate funding for the population growth and ageing, however, are advised there is no additional funding available. Discussions occurred regarding the need to compromise on other areas to meet KPIs for planned surgery, such as Transfer of Care (TOC) or Emergency Treatment Performance (ETP). Agreement was received that the Ministry of Health will accept the District reaching the level of overdue planned surgery as at January 2020.

At the recent Senior Executive Forum, the Chief Executives were entitled to put one question forward to the Ministry of Health to take on notice and respond to in 3 weeks. The question was regarding trade-offs and the ability to be able to prioritise focus on specific KPIs for the Districts.

The Board noted their major concerns regarding the pressure from the Ministry of Health to reach planned surgery targets, which puts immense strain on the District's ability to meet the allocated budget. They expressed their unwavering support for the actions the Chief Executive is taking.

The Chief Executive further noted:

- the Health Minister has requested additional options to assist the parking challenges at Bulli Hospital. The EDIA will lead a survey with staff urgently to ascertain why there has been little uptake of the shuttle service and alternate options.
- there are currently 6 people going through the Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) process.
- The District is currently estimating a full year expense forecast of (\$37.4m) unfavourable; this forecasted result is in comparison to provisional budget arrangements as top-down budgets are not yet finalised. The District will be reviewing its forecasting processes.
- the meeting with Commissioner Richard Beasley SC regarding the District's submission to the Special Commission of Inquiry into Healthcare Funding and additional documents being provided.

The Board queried the reason for Mental Health being below their activity target and were advised:

- Since FY23, Mental Health inpatient services have been funded under a new model - Australian Mental Health Care Classification (AMHCC).
- The July to September 2023 report from MH INFORM indicated that our Admitted volume is at -13.1% variance - 351 NWAU.
- The Mental Health Service has 12 consumers with a length of stay at more than 50 days - Total of 1688 days.
- It is anticipated these 12 consumers will be discharged before the end of the FY24, resulting in an additional 444 NWAU.
- This would place the MHS 93 NWAU over target.
- Mental Health Service Directors across the state have identified issues with the new funding model, specifically where scoring has been applied incorrectly for two scenarios resulting in a negative NWAU adjuster.
 - HONOS for Aboriginal consumers aged over 50 and under 65.
 - HONOS for child and adolescent consumers aged 18 who are still in school.
- The Ministry, Director Systems Informatics and Analytics has advised that 'At this stage we do not see a change to local reporting, or the approach applied'.

The Chief Executive advised the District currently has 98 people in hospital waiting for a placement as a residential aged care facility (RACF). While the additional beds at Figtree Private Hospital are going well, they are also full. The Board queried whether the District is tracking the discharge rate to RACF and the reason for the lack of discharge i.e., Due to clinical care, lack of availability of a facility bed or a preference issue. The state has decided to support a rigorous analysis of why this is occurring within this area with a view to understand the specific patterns.

The Board discussed their concern that patients and their families were able to refuse an unlimited number of RACF offers purely based on preference, and heavily supported the notion of only having the ability to deny 3 offers.

The Board noted their significant concerns for the District regarding the lack of Residential Aged Care Facilities and huge impacts on the District's access and flow.

ACTION 269/23: Chief Executive to provide an update on the prioritisation KPI question put to the MoH executive from the Senior Executive Forum. (Assignee(s): Chief Executive; Due Date: 26/02/2024)

ITEM 10: For Information

10.1 Board Calendar and Leave

The Board noted the Board calendar and leave planner. The Board Chair requested Members email the Board Secretary with any additional leave requests.

ITEM 11: Closure of General Meeting

The Chief Executive wished the Board a very happy and safe Christmas and thanked them for their support. She expressed her appreciation for the support provided during 2023 and their work together to make a better organisation and services.

The Board Chair thanked the Office of the Chief Executive staff for their hard work and support over the past year including:

- Jessica De Angelis, A/Executive Director Strategy, Risk, Planning and Performance
- Angela Twist, Board Secretary and A/Executive Officer
- Hayden Barrington, Executive Support Officer.

The Board Chair commended the Chief Executive for her dedication and tenacity noting the Board are aware of the contributions she makes to health state-wide, not just the District.

The Board Chair thanked the Board Members for their contributions. He noted his pleasure working together over the past year and discussed the enormous amount he has learnt from each of them.

There being no further business, the Board Chair closed the meeting at 2.33pm.