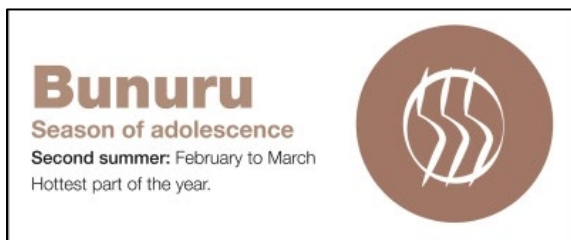


SMHS Board Communiqué

Excellent health care, every time

February 2025 meeting

This communiqué highlights key discussions of interest at the South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) Board meeting which was held at Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) on Monday 24 February 2025.



After the increasing warm weather of the Birak season, Bunuru is the hottest time of the year, with little or no rain.

Hot easterly winds continue, with a cooling sea breeze most afternoons along the coast. Traditionally those living and fishing by our coast, rivers and estuaries enjoyed a diet high in sea and freshwater foods.

At the beginning of the meeting, Board member Dr Amanda Boudville acknowledged the Whadjuk people of the Noongar lands on which the Board was meeting. Dr Boudville reflected on an article in The Guardian regarding the completion of the Colonial Frontier Massacres digital map project, and the sobering statistics that have been confirmed from this research. The Board noted it is a reminder of how little we know as a society, and the importance of increasing our understanding to enable us to work better together.

In patient stories this month, Board members heard the positive feedback shared by a patient involved in one of FSH's clinical trials, and the significant benefits and opportunities associated with the development and recent launch of the SMHS Consumer Involvement in Research Framework. The Board commended SMHS for its leadership in consumer involvement and linkage with the clinical trials framework, and the importance of this work in making a difference to patients' lives.

The Board acknowledged Mr Neil Doverty and his appointment as A/Chief Executive SMHS until a formal recruitment process is undertaken. In my Chair report, I thanked Deputy Chair Kim Gibson for her steady leadership while A/Board Chair at the beginning of the month.



I commended the efforts of the Fiona Stanley Fremantle Hospitals Group (FSFHG) in undergoing accreditation from 10-14 February and shared the surveyors' positive feedback which was highlighted at the summation meeting on 14 February.

I also thanked Yvonne Parnell (pictured left) for representing the Board at the first Fiona Wood public lecture for 2025, where Dr Jon Lam, FSFHG ophthalmologist presented on eye health to around 100 attendees.

In the A/Chief Executive's report, Neil Doverty provided updates on:

- Acknowledging SMHS Executive team.
- SMHS 2025 workplan which was submitted to the Department of Health.
- Emergency and elective access across SMHS sites.
- FSH Cockburn Mental Health.
- Murdoch Medihotel.

The Board Committee Chairs highlighted specific items considered at their February 2025 meetings:

- The Safety and Quality Committee received a presentation on the Criteria Led Arthroplasty Pathway to Expedite Discharge (CLAPPED) project. The Committee also received project service report and strategic plan updates and reviewed the regular safety and quality performance indicators.
- The Finance and Governance Committee discussed the January financial performance reports and mid-year review outcomes, considered the contract management exception report and received a strategic plan update.
- The Audit and Risk Committee considered the audit log, risk register and integrity and ethics updates. The Committee also received and reviewed an internal audit report on write-off and waiver management.
- The People, Culture and Engagement Committee reviewed patient experience dashboards and the workforce dashboard for the second quarter of 2024/25, as well as receiving a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan site implementation update, two quarterly project service reports and an update on strategic plan priorities.

The next Board meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 31 March 2025 at FSH.

Adjunct Associate Professor Robyn Collins
Board Chair, South Metropolitan Health Service
6 March 2025