

EMHS Board Communique

The latest news, views, and announcements

This communique highlights key discussions and considerations of the EMHS Board Strategic meeting held on Tuesday 5 May 2026 at East Metropolitan Health Service.

Board Members Present

Ms Sally Carbon OAM	Board Chair
Dr Denise Glennon	Deputy Board Chair
Ms Melissa Grove	Board Member
Prof. Tracey Moroney OAM	Board Member
Ms Vanessa Elliott AM	Board Member
Ms Clare Grieveson	Board Member
Dr Glenn Murray	Board Member
Dr Cathy Nottage	Board Member
Mr Kane Blackman	Board Member

May 2026

Role of the East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) Board

The EMHS Board is responsible for:

- Setting the strategic direction for EMHS.
- Undertaking decision-making and business in accordance with public sector and WA health system, legislation, regulations, policy frameworks, policies and standards.
- Overseeing the activity of EMHS, including systems of financial control, internal control and performance reporting.
- Ensuring EMHS functions are effectively performed at an operational level.

Board Meeting Acknowledgements

An Acknowledgement of Country – Board Member Dr Cathy Nottage acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land in which we met, the lands of the Whadjuk people of the Noongar Nation, and paid respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Thank you to Acting Chief Executive – The Board extended their thanks and appreciation to Mr Philip Aylward who had been acting as Chief Executive for 6 months, whilst the recruitment process for the permanent role went through the recruitment process.

Welcome to the Chief Executive – The Board welcomed the permanent EMHS Chief Executive, Mr Joel Gurr.



Board Chair – Sally Carbon OAM

- The Board’s Workplan was tabled at the Board meeting with discussions regarding the June Strategic Meeting’s Executive Question. The Chief Executive to further refine the question to ensure an achievable outcome for the June meeting.
- The Board Chair provided an overview of the Health Service Provider’s (HSPs) Board Chairs Meeting and outlined key topics discussed with the other HSP Board Chair’s.
- Launch of the DaVinci Robot at Royal Perth Hospital with fellow Board Member Dr Glenn Murray. The Board acknowledged the support provided from the RPH Research Foundation for the acquisition. Depending on the type of surgical procedure, robotic surgery can provide many benefits for the patient – smaller scars, less time under anaesthesia and decreased length of stay in the hospital.
- The Board Chair attended the launch of the Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy.
- The EMHS Board completed the submission of the 2026 Annual Collection for the Public Sector Commission. An area of improvement for the Board to focus on in 2026 is increasing integrity with the Board Code of Conduct.
- The Board Chair attended the monthly Ambulance Ramping Taskforce which highlighted the Winter Strategy phases.
- The Board Chair and EMHS A/Chief Executive attended the WA Government (Premier and Minister) pre-budget announcement at St John of God Midland Hospital.
- The United States (US) Chief Consul had a guided tour through Royal Perth Hospital with the Board Chair and the RPBG Executive Director, Mr Ben Noteboom.



Board Leader Rounding

- Board Members Dr Denise Glennon and Clare Grieveson undertook leader rounding with the EMHS Winter Commander who outlined the DoH Winter Strategy is system driven and implemented uniformly across all HSPs.
- Kane Blackman, Tracey Moroney and Dr Cathy Nottage undertook leader rounding in the RPH Theatres, visiting the Da Vinci Robot. Two surgeons spoke to the team about the robot’s functionality and were incredibly positive on the benefits of having the robot at RPH.
- Sally Carbon, Vanessa Elliott, Mel Grove and Glenn Murray undertook leader rounding at the RPH ED Redevelopment site. The works are progressing well.





May Board Meeting Strategic Direction Focus: An optimised and engaged workforce

Executive Question: An optimised and engaged workforce – Build capability not just capacity

The Board welcomed Dori Lombardi – A/Executive Director People and Culture; Danielle Kilmurray – A/Area Director, Allied Health; Kylie Fawcett – A/Executive Director, Nursing, Midwifery and Patient Support Services; Prof. Grant Waterer, Executive Director, Medical Services and Mas Bianchi, Director Organisational Development to present on the Strategic Direction Focus and Executive Question.

The presentation outlined the following key points:

- Snapshot of EMHS 'Our People' and demographics.
- Plan for Our People (P4OP) – 4 Pillars of Wellbeing, Capability, Culture and Future.
- Flexible Working
- Staff Safety and Wellbeing
- Increasing EMHS Aboriginal Workforce and EMHS's Aboriginal Cultural Learning Framework
- Developing EMHS Future Leader's
- Future of Allied Health Workforce
- JMO Wellbeing and Medical Workforce Planning

May Board Meeting Governance Matters

- The Board received a written update from the A/Chief Executive through the mini-Chief Executive Report. Key items in the report were:
 - EMHS Winter Strategy and the proposed six performance indicators to provide the Board with high-level oversight.
 - EMHS Financial Stewardship and reporting on the savings strategy and FTE reporting.
 - EMHS Major Projects updates.
- The Board approved the 2025-26 Mental Health Commission and EMHS Deed of Variation Service Agreement, which was signed under the EMHS Common Seal.
- The Board received a briefing on the Mount Lawley Hospital Service Agreement, which was circulated out of session to the members and signed out of session under seal on Friday 8 May 2025.
- The Board received a high-level summary of the RPH ED Project Preliminary Design processes and status.
- The Board received a report on Board Member mandatory training compliance.