

Sydney Local Health District

Meeting One Hundred and Fifty-Seven of the Board

Date: Monday 28 April 2025
Time: 08:30 – 11.00am
Venue: Canterbury Hospital Education Centre / Teams
Chair: Adjunct Professor Karen Crawshaw PSM

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair conducted Acknowledgment of Country

2. Welcome / Present / Apologies

Present

Adjunct Professor Karen Crawshaw PSM, Chair
Ms Deb Willcox AM, Chief Executive
Ms Ronwyn North, Member
Mr Richard Acheson, Member
Mr Rob Furolo, Member
Mr Raymond Dib, Member
Dr Mary Haines, Member
Dr John Sammut, Member
The Hon. Carmel Tebbutt, Member
Dr Alicja Smiech, Chair, Medical Staff Executive Council
Dr Andrew Hallahan, Executive Director Medical Services Clinical governance & Risk

Apologies

Ms LaVerne Belleair, Member

In attendance

Dr Genevieve Wallace, Executive Director of Operations, SLHD
Mr Joseph Jewitt, A/Chief of Staff, Office of the Chief Executive
Mr Puneet Datta, A/Executive Director of Finance, SLHD
Ms Ivanka Komusanac, Executive Director Nursing and Midwifery, SLHD
Mr Nathan Rudd, A/Director People and Culture, SLHD
Ms Blaise Lyons, Director, Legal Services, SLHD (presenter)
Prof Jonathon Carter,
Ms Kate Griew, Clinical Governance & Practice Development, Maternity (presenter)
Ms Pam Garrett, Director Planning, SLHD (presenter)
Ms Zoe Hassoun, Secretariat
Ms Lexie O'Connor, Graduate Health Management Trainee

3. Declaration / Removal of conflicts of interest

The Chair advised to declare / remove any conflicts of interest at this meeting.

Mr Rob Furolo declared he has commenced a new role with Urban Development Institute of Australia

Dr Mary Haines declared that her consulting company (MH Consulting Group) has two new contracts with parts of NSW Health. One relates to a program-level review of a statewide research investment program. Another involves supporting NSLHD with the development of its new research strategy. The board discussed both at length and agreed that neither constituted a conflict of interest. As a precautionary measure, it was agreed that Dr Haines will not be involved in board discussions concerning SLHD research strategy for the next six months.

4. Presentation:

4.1 Legal Liability (including WHS) and indemnity issues for Board members, Blaise Lyons, Director Legal Services

The Director provided an update on:

- While the primary duty of care under the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act rests with the district, Board members are responsible for ensuring the district meets its obligations and may be personally prosecuted in cases of non-compliance.
- A review of SafeWork prosecutions over the past three years revealed seven cases, primarily involving construction businesses lacking proper procedures.
- Upcoming changes to the WHS Act, effective 1 July 2025, will establish the SafeWork Commissioner as the official Regulator, supported by the newly formed SafeWork Advisory Council, and require biannual reporting on investigations, complaints, and regulatory actions.

4.2 Third and Fourth Degree Perineal Tears, Professor Jonathon Carter, Clinical Director, Women's Health, Neonatology and Paediatrics SLHD

The Director provided an update on:

- Highlighting data reporting challenges and differences between HAC data from QIDS which is coder-derived, delayed, and based on Emergency Obstetric Care episodes and real-time maternity data from MatIQ, which enables timely issue resolution and supports complex queries. Midwifery education sessions have been implemented at Canterbury Hospital to address identified concerns. A key focus remains the reduction of perineal trauma through a district-wide, multidisciplinary approach emphasising ongoing clinician education and the maintenance of a skilled education workforce. While an increased caesarean section rate could reduce risk, it is not considered an ideal solution.
- The Board **commends** Professor Carter and his team for the quality and safety improvement and excellent performance of the department.
- The Board invited Professor Carter to provide an update in 12 months.
- **ACTION:** Board Secretary to add to Presentations Schedule

4.3 Hospital Acquired Complications (HACs), Dr Andrew Hallahan, Executive Director, Medical Services Clinical Governance and Risk

The Director provided an update on:

- Delirium and Endocrine Complications are not meeting targets at some facilities, with action plans underway to address contributing factors such as patient complexity and post-operative risks. In contrast, Falls and Pressure Injury prevention efforts were commended, following the successful launch of the FRAMP (Falls and Prevention Management Plan) tool and the award-winning RPA Virtual Wound Care Command Centre.
- The Board highly **commends** our staff for the outstanding results in the prevention of pressure injuries and the work on falls within the district.

5 Confirmation of previous minutes

5.1 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held 17 March 2025 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

6 Matters arising from the previous minutes

6.1 Action sheet

The Board received, read and noted the items on the action sheet.

6.2 Paper- progress update on Enforceable Undertaking

The Chief Executive provided an update on:

- There were 33 deliverables, 28 have been completed and 5 are yet to be completed.
- The Graduate Diploma has been extensively advertised and resulted in 10 suitable applicants only.
- CE wrote to SafeWork NSW requesting consideration to advertise the Graduate Diploma within the SLHD and an extension of the submission date.
- BEST Team – Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery to evaluate service against operational need of hospital teams.

6.3 Paper- Horticulture in Mental Health

See Action Items

7 Patient Story

- Ellen - Boronia Ward Nurse Unit Manager - spoke about an elderly patient's admission to hospital for chronic respiratory illness, sepsis and deconditioning. Six weeks into his hospitalization, the treating team suggested a change in care goals. The family did not accept this recommendation and decided to make a REACH call. This prompted an immediate response from the alternative medical team. After the consultation was conducted with Geriatrics, the team took over patient care and developed a revised

management plan. Both the carer and patient were grateful to the nursing staff who advocated for the patient and supported them in seeking a second opinion.

8. Matters for Approval / Resolution

8.1 SLHD Strategic Plan 2025 – 2030 - Director Planning

- The Board **approved** the Strategic Plan. The plan will be published on the website. A modest order of hard copies will be printed for distribution around the district. The plan will be reviewed annually to ensure the goals are being met.
- The Board thanked the Director of Planning and the team for all their work in producing in the plan.

8.2 Medical and Dental Appointment Advisory Committee Membership (MDAAC)

- The Board **approved** Paula Willisroft, Executive Director, People and Culture SLHD, as an SLHD Board nominee to the SLHD MDAAC

8.3 Paper - SLHD Board Subcommittees – Chief of Staff

The Board **noted** the changes required:

- Mr Rob Furolo attends the Aboriginal Health Steering Committee and Consumer and Community Advisory Committee.
- Mr Ray Dib attends the Medical Staff Executive Committee and removes Mr Rob Furolo from the schedule
- Ms LaVerne Belleair attends SLHD Clinical Council and remove Dr Mary Haines.
- Remove the word “education” from the Research Subcommittee Terms of Reference. Education will be included in the Terms of Reference of the Board Committee People and Culture.
- Mr Richard Acheson to attend the SLHD Consumer and Community Advisory Committee.

9. Chair's Report

The Board Chair provided a verbal update including:

- Noted correspondence from Concord Medical Staff Council.
- The Chief Executive to advise the Board of any media reporting.
- **ACTION:** The Chief Executive to include a Media and Communication summary in the monthly report.

10. Standing Items

10.1 Chief Executive

The Board received, read and noted this report. The following is noted:

SLHD Performance

The Board **noted** that the district's performance continues to perform at level 1.

Facility's Accreditation update

Community Health Short Notice Accreditation starting on Monday 28 April for four days.

People and Culture update

The next Industrial Relations Commission hearing regarding psychiatry staff specialists' dispute will occur in June/July 2025.

The Mental Health service has commenced recruitment prioritising critical areas

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists conducted a review of the current trainee placements and the supervision arrangements in place. The review identified no concerns, and the supervision provided was deemed adequate by the College, with no negative feedback reported.

Ministry of Health update

The Purchasing Roadshow meeting with the NSW Ministry of Health is scheduled for 2nd May 2025 to discuss the service Level agreement for 2025/2026

10.2 Finance

The Board received, read and noted this report.

10.3 Operations

The Board received, read and noted this report.

10.4 Safety and Quality and Medical Services

The Board received, read and noted this report.

10.5 Medical

The Board received, read and noted this report.

10.6 Nursing

The Board received, read and noted this report.

The Board has requested more detail and trend analysis in the Nursing Hour per Patient Day (NHPPD) report.

ACTION: Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery to be invited to attend the Board meetings.

ACTION: The Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery will revise the NHPPD (Nursing Hours Per Patient Day) report to enhance its clarity and provide more informative and comprehensive data presentation.

10.7 Facility Reports - General Managers

The Board received, read and noted these reports.

The Board **commended** the HERDU report.

10.8 Selected Performance Indicators – January 2025

The Board received, read and noted this report.

10.9 Workforce (Quarterly)

The Board received, read and noted this report.

The Board **queried** if the SLHD had a plan for Indigenous employees and people with disabilities. This matter will be addressed at the People and Culture Committee.

The Chief Executive advised that SLHD has recently employed someone with cerebral palsy and started employment last week.

10.10 Digital Health and Innovations (Quarterly)

The Board noted the report was tabled in the March meeting.

10.11 Capital Infrastructure and Engineering (Quarterly)

The Board noted the report to be tabled in the May meeting.

10.12 Risk Management (Quarterly)

The Board received, read and noted the report.

10.13 Detailed Asset Management Report (Quarterly)

The Board noted this report was to be tabled in the May meeting.

10.14 Detailed Cyber Security Report (Six Monthly)

The Board noted the report was tabled in the March meeting.

11. Legal Matters

The Board received, read and noted this report.

12. Board Committee reports / minutes

12.1 Finance and Performance Management Committee

The Board received, read and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 14 April 2025.

12.2 Education and Research Committee

The Board received, read and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2025.

12.3 Audit and Risk Committee

The Board received, read noted the March report.

12.4 Patient Safety and Quality Board Subcommittee

The Board received, read and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2025

12.5 People and Culture Board Subcommittee

The Board noted the next meeting is to be held on the 16 June 2025

12.6 SLHD Clinical Council

The Board received, read and noted the minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2025

12.7 Medical Staff Executive Council

The Board noted the next meeting will be held on 13 May 2025

12.8 Patient and Consumer Committee (bi-monthly)

The Board noted the next meeting will be held on 8 May 2025

12.9 Aboriginal Health Steering Committee (bi-monthly)

The Board noted the next meeting to be held on 27 May 2025.

13. Matters for Noting

13.1 Sustainability Committee (bi-monthly)

The Board noted the next meeting is to be advised.

13.2 Medical and Dental Appointments Advisory Committee

The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2025

13.3 Finance Leaders Forum

The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2025

13.4 NSW Health / SLHD Performance Review Meeting

The Board noted the meeting is to be advised.

13.5 Organ Donation for Transplantation

The Board noted the next meeting is to be advised.

13.6 Major Procurement, Assets and Imaging Steering Committee

The Board noted the next meeting is to be advised.

13.7 Yaralla Estate Community Advisory Committee (quarterly)

The Board noted the minutes of the meeting held on the 4 March 2025

13.8 Security and Violence Prevention Committee

The Board noted the next meeting is to be advised.

13.9 SLHD Board Presentation Schedule

The Board noted the schedule and was placed in the reading room.

14. Business without Notice

AI governance in Public Health

A presentation has been added to the schedule for November 2025.

A Picture of Health report is on the website dated 12 years ago.
The Board asked if the report could be updated.

15. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 19 May at 8.30am at Croydon Community Health Centre.

The Chair declared the Board Meeting closed at 11.30am.



Board Chair, SHLD

Date: 21. 5. 25