

## PATHWEST Board Communiqué

*This communiqué` highlights key discussions and considerations from the November 2022 Board Meeting.*



The November 2022 Board meeting was held at the QEII Medical Campus in the Harry Perkins Building, during the Noongar season of Kambarang – a transformational time of the year with striking displays of wildflowers, including the Mooja or Australian Christmas Tree which signals that hot weather is on its way.

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Angie Paskevicius, Chair  
Kevin Taylor  
Christobel Saunders  
Susan Rooney

Tarun Weeramanthri, Deputy Chair  
Gelareh Farshid  
Samantha Elder  
Tony Vis

### KEY MATTERS:

#### [PathWest Operational Plan](#)

Paul Schneider, Executive Director, Corporate Services, PathWest, presented to the Board on the PathWest Operational Plan which will realise the six strategic goals in the PathWest Strategic Plan, released in September 2021. The Operational Plan, which was developed through consultation and consensus around themes and activities relevant to the strategic pillars, is heavily focused on collaboration across PathWest and its multi-disciplinary structure. This collaborative approach ensures that a focus is retained on delivering a consistent standard of service and that all disciplines within PathWest are engaged in working towards achieving the organisation's strategic goals, to enhance patient outcomes.

Some of the activities aimed at driving strategic outcomes include:

- implementing further measures and tools for customer feedback to ensure recipients of PathWest services are more actively engaged in planning, design and delivery of services that impact them;
- developing an IT strategy to better integrate ICT systems to enhance clinician access to PathWest results and mine data to drive service developments and improvements; and
- development of a cultural improvement plan to build and sustain workforce culture and a Workforce Plan to improve staff attraction and service delivery, particularly in regional areas.

#### [Chief Executive update](#)

The Acting Chief Executive, Sash Tomson was introduced to Board members and was welcomed to PathWest. He noted that PathWest is continuing to recruit for the restructured roles of Executive Director, People, Performance and Capability, as well as a dedicated Chief Technology Officer who will drive data services and innovation for PathWest. Sash is meeting staff across our different sites to talk about and to see the varied services PathWest provides.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES:

The Chair of the Safety and Quality Committee provided a report on the Committee's most recent meeting including:

- Update of the Committee's Terms of Reference principally to reflect transfer of functions relating to Work Health and Safety to the People and Culture Committee.
- Progress on implementation of auto escalation in the Laboratory Information System of non-compliance in phoning high risk results and auto escalation of results that should be referred to a Pathologist but where this has not occurred within the required timeframe.
- Discussing the results of the Quality Management Report which provides a snapshot of PathWest's accreditation assessment by NATA, noting a downward trend in the number of policy and procedural documents due for review in the first quarter of the 2023 Financial Year and a decrease in complaints and increase in compliments about the PathWest service for this quarter compared to the previous quarter.

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

This month has included a significant focus on professional development with Board members continuing to undertake informative training modules with the Department of Health. I also attended sessions on sustainability reporting and a further Board orientation session in my capacity as Chair, as well as a briefing session by Government on the Sustainable Health Review. The Independent Review of the WA Health System Governance Report was discussed during the November 2022 Board meeting and the Board was pleased to note the Report's support for the devolved system of governance for the health system instituted through the *Health Services Act 2016*, including the significant role of Health Service Provider Boards. Specifically, the report referred to the system's contribution to ensuring systemwide consistency and local Health Service Provider accountability and innovation. The Board looks forward to receiving the Government response to the report's recommendations aimed at furthering Health system improvements.

## NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held at QEII Medical Campus and via Teams on Thursday, 1 December 2022.



Ms. Angie Paskevicius  
**Chair, PathWest Board**  
3 November 2022