

PathWest Board Communiqué

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the March 2022 Board meeting.

Member attendance:

Ms. Angie Paskevicius (Chair)

Prof. Christobel Saunders – *via VC*

Mr. Kevin Taylor – *via VC*

Mr. Robert McPhee – *via VC*

Ms. Michele Dolin – *via VC*

Prof. Tarun Weeramanthri – *via VC*

Prof. Gelareh Farshid – *via VC*

Dr. Kim Hames – *via VC*

Ms. Samantha Elder – *via VC*

Apologies:

Ms. Fiona Collins

In attendance

Mr. Adrian Bautista (A/Chief Executive)

Ms. Jo Gaines – *via VC*

Ms. Megan Inglis – *via VC*

Dr. Chris van Vliet

Ms. Analiese Sidhu – *via VC*

Ms. Nicola Chisholm

Ms. Kym Peake – *via VC*

Dr. David Rosengreen – *via VC*

Ms. Tania Murray – *via VC*

Mr. Aus Molan

Mr. Mike Smith – *via VC*

March 2022 Board Meeting

The March Board meeting was held at the QEII Medical Campus in the Harry Perkins Building and via MS Teams on Thursday, 3 March 2022. At the meeting the Board heard from Dr Chris van Vliet who provided an informative and passionate presentation on Fluorescence in situ Hybridisation (FISH) testing, what it is used for as well as some of the advantages and drawbacks of the testing.

Key matters for discussion:

[Independent Governance Review](#)

On 18 January 2022, the Minister for Health announced an independent review of governance of the WA Health system. The review will examine the operational and practical effectiveness of the governance structures set out in the *Health Services Act 2016* (the Act). The Act commenced on 1 July 2016 and sets out a legal framework for clear roles, responsibilities and accountabilities at all levels of the system and a devolved model of governance that enables decision-making closer to service delivery and patient care.

The Minister for Health has appointed the following as the Independent Governance Review panel:

- Chair - Ms Kym Peake, Partner, EY Port Jackson
- Dr David Rosengren, Executive Director Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
- Ms Jo Gaines, GESB Chair
- Mr Gary Smith, Co-Chair of Reconciliation WA and Chancellor of Murdoch University

The Independent Governance Review Panel met with the PathWest Board to hold an introductory meeting to discuss the work the Panel will be undertaking and to have a preliminary discussion about the terms of reference and issues identification.

The governance review is anticipated to take nine months to complete with a final report to be submitted to the Minister for Health providing advice on the efficiency and effectiveness

of the governance arrangements for the WA health system and making recommendations on system governance improvements, in line with the Sustainable Health Review.

Pricing and Costing Project

Mr Aus Molan provided the Board with the updated metrics for February 2022, noting this work is being refined. The next phase of the project (six weeks) is to refine the process and continue with parallel billing in the background. It was explained this project is not about identifying the physical journey, it is about the digital journey of the samples.

Laboratory Information System

Ms Analiese Sidhu, A/Executive Director Corporate Services and Mike Smith, Project Manager provided an update to the Board regarding changes and enhancements to the Laboratory Information System (LIS) following the discussions at the December 2021 and February 2022 Board meetings.

ICT Functional and Operational Review

The Board was informed that the review of the current ICT strategy, operating model, and implementation roadmap has commenced. The PathWest Strategy 2021-25 and the associated PathWest Technology Functional Operating Model are currently under development with all disciplines and technology related business units.

Committee updates:

Safety and Quality Committee

- The Safety and Quality Committee was held on Tuesday, 15 February 2022.
- Information was provided for two historical SAC events with a general discussion following. With both incidents, changes have occurred to minimise the likelihood of the incidents occurring again.
- The Committee was advised that progress against the 2019 WorkSafe Audit was progressing with the target date for the next audit on track to occur before 1 July 2022.
- The quarterly OSH report was presented to the Committee, with it being noted that there has been an increase in the number of psychological incidents. This will be a focus area for the People and Culture Committee.

A message from the Board Chair

As you may have seen, on Tuesday, 8 March 2022, the Director General and I announced the appointment of Mr. Adrian Bautista as Chief Executive of PathWest Laboratory Medicine WA. Some of the key priorities for Adrian will be the development and implementation of the 2022–2023 Operational Plans linked to the 2021-25 Strategic Plan, optimisation of the Laboratory Information System, completion of the State Mortuary Upgrade Project, and relocation of the Media Manufacturing Unit. He is also dedicated to improving workplace culture by establishing stability and cohesion.

Adrian brings a wealth of experience as an executive and leader with extensive strategic, economic and commercial knowledge across a range of industries and sectors, including manufacturing, asset management, infrastructure, banking and utilities as well as healthcare, and particular experience at a senior level in the pathology sector. On behalf of the Board, I would like to congratulate Adrian on being appointed Chief Executive, and we look forward to working with him.

The Board would also like to thank all staff for their work during this challenging and uncertain time as COVID numbers increase on a daily basis. Your passion and commitment to the work that you do is appreciated by the Board.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held via MS Teams on Thursday, 7 April 2022.



Ms. Angie Paskevicius
Chair, PathWest Board
17 March 2022



Angie Paskevicius



Tarun Weeramanthri



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