

## PathWest Board Communique

This communique highlights key discussions and considerations from the Board's September meeting as well as other important information.

### Member attendance:

Professor Christobel Saunders (Chair)

Dr. Sue van Leeuwen

Mr. Kevin Taylor

Ms. Michele Dolin

Dr. Kim Hames

Professor Tarun Weeramanthri

Ms. Samantha Elder

Mr. Robert McPhee – *via videoconference*

Ms. Angie Paskevicius

### In attendance

Mr. Joe Boyle (Chief Executive)

Dr Jodi White

### Apologies:

Professor Gelareh Farshid

### September 2020 Board Meeting

The September Board meeting was held at QEII Medical Campus on Thursday, 3 September 2020.

At this meeting the Board received a presentation from Dr Jodi White, Head of Department, Forensic Pathology and State Mortuary Service. Dr White provided an overview of the Department, current issues for the service and an update on the State Mortuary Refurbishment Project, with the upgrade due to be implemented in 2021. Following the meeting, Dr White provided a tour of the State Mortuary, which enabled our Board members to familiarise themselves with the service. Dr Sue van Leeuwen, Board member provided the below reflection on the tour:

*The passion that Dr Jodi White spoke of the service was impressive.*

*Our site visit was comprehensive, seeing all aspects of the State Mortuary. Jodi's knowledge of the service was noteworthy, answering every question we had professionally and in depth.*

*Each Board member felt the bereavement service offered to families visiting their loved ones in the mortuary was important, providing critical support and value to families during a difficult time in their lives.*

*The Board are excited and committed to the much-needed redevelopment of the State Mortuary.*

The Chief Executive also provided the Board with a comprehensive update on the Laboratory Information System noting the current status, summary schedule, governance structure and projected order of tests transitioning to the full implementation of Soft. The

Board were impressed with the progress of this project to date and eagerly await further updates around the three (3) main tertiary sites going 'live'.

### **Key matters for discussion**

- PathWest Forensic Biology Advisory Council draft Terms of Reference. The Council is due to be established as a part of the *Ross Inquiry into PathWest Laboratory Medicine WA Report Recommendations*. The Honourable John Chaney will Chair the Advisory Council, which will provide advice and support to the Board on Forensic Biology matters.

### **Summary of items for noting**

The Board noted the below documents recently received:

- Incoming correspondence: Minister for Health 'Your Voice in Health' Employee Engagement Survey.
- Incoming correspondence: Minister for Health Statement of Expectation. The Board Statement of Intent is currently being drafted and will be provided to the Minister for Health in due course.

Our Board Committees are in the final stages of preparation, with our first formal Board Committee meetings scheduled to take place later this month.

Finally, our Board is enthusiastic to meet with staff around PathWest. We are in the process of planning a series of site visits to meet PathWest staff and patients. In the meantime; should you wish to meet with a member of the Board, please email the Board Secretariat on [PathWestBoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au](mailto:PathWestBoardSecretariat@health.wa.gov.au)

### **Next Meeting**

The next PathWest Board meeting will be held on Thursday, 1 October 2020 at Fiona Stanley Hospital.

Professor Tarun Weeramanthri  
**Deputy Board Chair**

Acting on behalf of  
Professor Christobel Saunders, Board Chair

9 September 2020