



Board Communique

27 March 2026

The Board met on 27 March 2026 at Perth Children's Hospital.

Attending:

Dr Neale Fong, Board Chair
Prof Eli Gabbay, Deputy Board
Mr John McLean
Prof Karen Strickland
Prof Peter Steer
Mr Amit Khullar
Ms Kelly Worlock
Mrs Mary Anne Stephens Mrs
Meghan Maor
Ms Tracey Brand

Apologies: Nil

Ms Valerie Buic, CE

The Board Membership: The Board congratulated Prof. Eli Gabbay on appointment as Deputy Board Chair and Prof. Karen Strickland on re-appointment to the CAHS Board for a further three-year term.

Consumer Story: The Board reflected on consumer experiences of families from remote areas, highlighting the strong positive impact of coordinated, flexible and remote-enabled models of care in improving equitable access to services across CAHS.

Key matters for discussion: The Board reaffirmed Child Development Services (CDS) as a key organisational priority. Assurance was sought regarding ongoing and planned actions to strengthen service delivery.

CAHS Chief Executive Report and Service Updates: The Board received assurance that, following a well-managed winter period last year, CAHS is well prepared for 2026. Key preparedness measures include immunisation strategy, workforce readiness and bed capacity to support winter demand. The Board discussed service updates and operational Report.



Board Committees

- **Safety and Quality Committee:** The Board discussed the Committee Chair's report, noting high quality reporting and endorsed the Committee's recommendation.
- **People, Capability and Culture Committee:** The Board acknowledged and congratulated teams on strong achievement in the Royal Australasian College of Physicians written examination for paediatric trainees. The Board noted *Living Our Values* week and other updates.
- **Audit Risk and Compliance Committee:** The Board discussed the Chair's report and endorsed recommendations. The Board acknowledged that CAHS was found fully compliant with SOCI requirements.
- **Finance Committee:** The Board discussed the Chair's report, with focus on FTE growth management; recognised activity levels above target and sought updates on financial position.

Meeting with Stakeholders: The Board held Entrance Meeting for the 2024-25 Financial audit with the representatives of the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) Ms Punita Perumal and Mr David Kilgren.

Board Walk: Following the Board meeting, the Board visited the Perth Children's Hospital (PCH) Emergency Department (ED) as part of its Board Walk program, providing an opportunity to connect directly with frontline clinicians and support staff. Board members observed the fast-paced ED environment and gained firsthand insight into the challenges and complexities of providing emergency care, acknowledging the dedication and professionalism of the ED team and recognised the critical role they play in delivering timely, high-quality care to children and families across Western Australia.

RESOLUTIONS

Key resolutions included:

- The Board APPROVED closure of the high rated audit recommendations.
- The Board APPROVED high and extreme risk movements
- The Board ENDORSED the 2025-26 Service Level Agreement between the Child and Adolescent Health Service and PathWest

Next meeting

The next Board meeting will be held at Perth Children's Hospital on **1 May 2026**.

Dr Neale Fong

BOARD CHAIR

March 2026

