



Board Communique

18 September 2026

The Board met on 18 September 2026 at Sandcastles (Boodja Mia).

Attending:

Dr Neale Fong, Board Chair
Prof Eli Gabbay, Deputy Board
Ms Kelly Worlock
Mr Amit Khullar
Ms Tracey Brand
Mrs Mary Anne Stephens

Apologies:

Mr John McLean
Prof Karen Strickland
Dr Peter Steer

In Attendance:

Ms Valerie Buic, CE

Tour of Sandcastles: The Board toured Sandcastles prior to the facility opening to families and received an opportunity to view the facility, receive an overview of the service provided to children and families, and see firsthand the purpose-built environment designed to deliver respite, palliative, end-of-life and bereavement support.

CAHS Strategy and Planning: The Board and Executive participated in a strategic workshop, which included consideration of the integration of women's and newborn services. Discussions focused on the vision and purpose of the new organisation, strategic priorities, Aboriginal health commitments, stakeholder engagement, strategy implementation and governance arrangements.

Key matters for discussion

NWBH Update: The Board received an update on recent developments and engagement activities with staff and stakeholders and discussed planning and implementation timeframes. Heading towards 1 July 2027

Child Development Services (CDS): The Board received a progress update, noting significant reductions in waiting times for a number of allied health services, as well as discharge of patients whose assessments determined ongoing specialist services were not required. The Board commended the team on the progress achieved.

Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: The Board received an update on the implementation of the Community CAMHS model of care and noted some positive early outcomes.

Finance Sustainability: The Board received financial update and noted ongoing progress toward the budget goals and sustainable financial management.

Next meeting

The next Board meeting will be held at Perth Children's Hospital on **16 October 2026**.

Dr Neale Fong
BOARD CHAIR
September 2026

