

Minutes of the Hunter New England Local Health District Board

One hundred and fifteenth meeting

15 December 2021

Venue: meeting room 2, District Headquarters Building

Present

Dr Martin Cohen (Chair), Dr Patrick Farrell, Mr Peter Johnston, Dr Kirsten Molloy (MS Teams), Ms Elizabeth Nicol (MS Teams), Dr Stephen Pryde, Ms Lyn Raines, and Mr Ben Wilkins.

Apologies

Dr Cynthia Bierl and Dr Rob Pickles

In attendance

Professor Michael DiRienzo, Ms Karen Kelly, Dr Ramsey Awad and Ms Kylie McNamara.

BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

TOUR OF NEW MAITLAND HOSPITAL

The Board was provided with a tour of the hospital, led by Dr Ramsey Awad, Executive Director, Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability.

PRELIMINARY

1.1 Welcome, apologies and acknowledgment of country

The Chair, Dr Martin Cohen opened the business meeting at 11:00am. The Chair ACKNOWLEDGED the traditional owners of the country on which members were participating, and paid respects to Elders past, present and future. The Board ACKNOWLEDGED the work of previous Board member Mrs Janelle Speed.

1.2 Conflicts of interest

Mr Peter Johnston declared a potential conflict as he has been appointed a Director of Homes North Community Housing Limited, which is a non-government, not for profit social housing provider. The Board NOTED this potential conflict of interest.

1.3 Adoption of minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 November 2021 had been circulated. The minutes were adopted and will be published on the Hunter New England Health internet site.

ACTION BY: Board Secretariat

1.4 Action list

Previous action items were DISCUSSED and NOTED by the Board.

1.5 Board chair report

The Board Chair CONFIRMED that the Ministry of Health are yet to advise if there will be any additional board members appointed to the Hunter New England Local Health District Board.

The Board Chair ADVISED that a meeting was held between himself, the Deputy Board Chair, the Chief Executive and clinicians from the Maitland Hospital prior to commencement of the Board meeting. The meeting was held in order to engage with clinical staff, and seek feedback from the clinicians in relation to any matters they wanted to bring to the attention of the Board.

1.6 Chief executive's report

The Chief Executive's report had been circulated in the business papers and were DISCUSSED. Matters included:

- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) update
- Unvaccinated staff
- John Hunter Health and Innovation Precinct
 - Tender process
 - University of Newcastle Collaborations
- Charlestown
- GP Access After Hours Services (GPAAH)
- Tablelands General Manager
- 2021 Hunter Business Awards

Ms Karen Kelly (Executive Director, Greater Metropolitan Health Service) presented to the Board in relation to the new Maitland Hospital operations.

The Board felt reassured that the transition from the old to the new Maitland hospital is well planned and prepared for, and THANKED Ms Karen Kelly for her presentation.

COMMUNITY

2.1 Community and patient partnership committee

There were no papers for this meeting.

2.2 Good health committee

There were no papers for this meeting.

2.3 Aboriginal health committee

A brief and minutes in relation to the meeting held on 16 November 2021 had been distributed in the Board papers. The brief was DISCUSSED and NOTED by the Board.

2.4 New business

2.4.1 Adoption of minutes – Annual Public Meeting 2021

The minutes of the annual public meeting had been distributed in the Board papers. The minutes were adopted.

ACTION BY: Board Secretariat

2.5 For information

There was no new information relating to COMMUNITY.

SERVICE

3.1 District clinical council

A brief and minutes in relation to the meeting held on 10 November 2021 had been distributed in the Board papers.

The Board DISCUSSED the format of District Clinical Council, and potential review of the current format.

The brief was NOTED by the Board.

3.2 Medical staff executive council

There were no papers for this meeting.

3.3 New business

There was no new business relating to SERVICE.

3.4 For information

There was no new information relating to SERVICE.

SAFETY, QUALITY AND PATIENT EXPERIENCE

4.1 Health care quality committee

A brief and minutes in relation to the meeting held on 24 November 2021 had been distributed in the Board papers. The brief was DISCUSSED and NOTED by the Board.

4.2 New business

4.2.1 HNE LHD 2021-21 Safety and Quality Account

A brief and the account had been distributed in the Board papers. The account was DISCUSSED and the recommendations were ENDORSED by the Board.

4.3 For information

There was no new information relating to SAFETY, QUALITY AND PATIENT EXPERIENCE.

RESOURCES

5.1 Finance and performance report

The Finance Management reports for the month ending November 2021 had been circulated in the business papers. The report was NOTED by the Board.

5.2 Finance and performance committee

A brief and minutes from the meeting held on 16 November 2021 had been distributed in the Board papers. The brief and minutes were NOTED by the Board.

5.3 Audit and risk management committee

There were no papers for this meeting.

5.4 Work, health and safety report

A report had been distributed in the business papers. The report was NOTED by the Board.

5.5 New business

There was no new business relating to RESOURCES.

5.6 For information

There was no new information relating to RESOURCES.

POSITIONING FOR THE FUTURE

6.1 Sustainability

Dr Ramsey Awad (Executive Director, Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability) presented to the Board in relation to sustainability.

The Board THANKED Dr Ramsey Awad for his presentation, and congratulated the team on progress made in relation to sustainability across the District.

6.2 New business

There was no new business relating to POSITIONING FOR THE FUTURE.

6.3 For information

There was no new information relating to POSITIONING FOR THE FUTURE.

OUR STAFF AND WORKPLACE CULTURE

7.1 Medical and dental appointments advisory committee

A brief from the meeting held on 23 November 2021 had been distributed in the Board papers. The brief was NOTED by the Board.

7.2 New business

There was no new business relating to OUR STAFF AND WORKPLACE CULTURE.

7.3 For information

There was no new information relating to OUR STAFF AND WORKPLACE CULTURE.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

8.1 Board performance report

A report had been distributed in the business papers. The report was NOTED by the Board.

8.2 Board members development report

There were no papers for this meeting.

8.3 New business

There was no new business relating to BOARD DEVELOPMENT.

8.4 For information

There was no new information relating to BOARD DEVELOPMENT.

MEETING REVIEW AND FEEDBACK

9.1 Member's issues not covered elsewhere

There were no papers for this meeting.

9.2 Feedback from the previous meeting

There were no papers for this meeting.

9.3 Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 16 February 2022 at meeting room 2, district headquarters building.

The Board Chair, Dr Martin Cohen closed the meeting at 1:35pm.