



Board Update

September 2021

The Central West Hospital and Health Service Board (the Board) was pleased to welcome the Queensland Integrity Commissioner, Dr Nikola Stepanov, to present at its September 2021 meeting. In her role as Commissioner Dr Stepanov is an officer of the Queensland Parliament providing confidential advice on ethics and integrity to Ministers, senior public servants and, in the case of the Board, statutory office holders.

Open, transparent and accountable decision making with the public interest first and foremost is an important priority for the Board. Having Dr Stepanov present provides an opportunity for the Board to consider its processes to ensure the integrity of its decision-making are authentic and robust. We appreciate Dr Stepanov for taking the time to travel to Longreach to attend our meeting and certainly appreciate her advice.

Our September 2021 meeting also received a presentation from representatives of the Queensland Occupational Violence Strategy Unit. This Unit is based at Metro North Hospital and Health Service and is leading the implementation of the recommendations from the 2016 Occupational Violence Prevention in Queensland Health's Hospital and Health Services Taskforce report. The Board received an update on the status of implementation and was pleased to note the Central West Hospital and Health Service is linking into this work via its Work Health and Safety Unit. Occupational violence incidents rates and type are monitored by the Board's Executive Committee in line with its risk appetite which clearly defines it has no support for activities which place the physical and/or mental health of our staff and/or public in danger.

Health Service Chief Executive, Jane Hancock, provided the Board with a detailed update on the work towards meeting the strategic priority for sustainable delivery of safe, quality healthcare

services across Central West Queensland. The significant ongoing economic and health challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic are being proactively responded to and openly discussed with the Department of Health by Jane and her leadership team and the Board fully supports this approach. The adoption and implementation of a strategy titled *Revenue, Recruit, Retain* is directly aligned with the challenges and risk outlined in our [2021-2025 Strategic Plan](#) and the Board appreciates the innovative and collaborative approach Jane is leading.

Collaboration and innovation are at the heart of the actions in support of the *Revenue, Recruit, Retain* strategy and the Board looks forward to updates on progress of initiatives which has the safety of consumers and staff at the centre. These include the excellent work in continuing to deliver equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccination across our communities. Our results in this area continue to move forward positively and again, we thank everyone for their efforts to support the health and safety of our communities.

The Board's Audit and Risk, Executive and Safety and Quality Committees met at various times through the month of August and supported the Board to meet its obligations as follows:

- 2020-2021 Financial statements approved
- 2020-2021 Annual report approved
- Approved Member – Kieran Chilcott as Board Champion to support the Health Service in progressing the development of the Health Equity Strategy
- Noted the successful accreditation by the Australian Council of Healthcare Standards and approved the annual attestation statement

We look forward to sharing our 2020-2021 Annual Report with you all once the parliamentary processes are completed at the end of this month. It is worth noting, that in challenging year, significant achievements have been made and this result is not to be underestimated. Thank you everyone for your contribution to this.



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Online – [Do you have a compliment, suggestions or complaint?](#)