
Summary of the key issues discussed and decisions made by the Board

**Townsville Hospital and Health Board Meeting
5 July 2012**

The first meeting of the Townsville Hospital and Health Board was held on 5 July 2012 at Executive Board Room, The Townsville Hospital.

The meeting was chaired by Mr John Bearne and attended by all members of the Board. An apology was received from Professor Ian Wronski. Board members in attendance were:

Mr John Bearne (Chair)
Dr Eric Guazzo
Dr Kevin Arlett

Mrs Michelle Morton (Deputy Chair)
Mr Glen Cerutti
Professor Ian Wronski

The focus of the meeting was on governance and compliance to establish the foundations of the Board's operations.

Governance Documents

The Board endorsed the following policy documents

- Terms of Reference, Business Rules and Roles & Responsibilities of members
- Conflict of Interest Policy
- Registers for pecuniary interests, conflicts of interest, and gifts and benefits.

The Board also dealt with and approved a range of delegations and authorities relating to the use and management of the Townsville Hospital and Health Service legal seal. The Board confirmed its approval prior to the meeting of interim human resource, finance and procurement delegations to the Hospital and Health Services Chief Executive.

The Board deferred authorisation and approval of other delegations until its next meeting and sought a report on the review and prioritisation of all policies. A consistency check is also to be undertaken with delegations in the Hospitals and Health Boards Act 2011.

Board Appointments

The Board noted that 3 vacancies exist and that approval of one nomination is pending, with the other 2 vacancies to be filled with suitable nominees from Regional areas. Mrs Michelle Morton's name has been put forward as the nominee for the role of Deputy Chair of the Board.

Sub-Committees

The Board elected the following members to chair each of its four sub-committees:

Executive Sub-Committee – Mrs Michelle Morton

Audit & Risk Committee – Dr Eric Guazzo

Finance Committee – Mr Glen Cerutti

Quality Care – Dr Kevin Arlett

The Board requested that Terms of Reference for each of the Sub-Committees be developed for its next meeting.

Townsville Hospital and Health Service Staffing

The Board confirmed its endorsement and nomination prior to the meeting of Karen Roach to act in the role Health Service Chief Executive from 1 July 2012.

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The Board noted the current status of the contracts of employment for Townsville Hospital and Health Services Staff and sought clarification on the status of some positions.

Financials

The Board noted the Interim Operational Budget for 2012-13 but deferred detailed discussions on budget, funding and financial management issues to its next meeting, pending receipt of more substantial financial information on the THHS operating position and budget.

Similarly, the Board deferred consideration of the transition preparedness of the Townsville Hospital and Health Service subject to a full review being undertaken by the Acting Chief Executive.

The Board expressed its concern at the increase in both workcover premiums and in common law action and accepted psychological claims and called for a full brief on these issues for its next meeting.

Complaints and Engagement Frameworks

The Board requested that frameworks be developed for complaints handling and reporting and for engagement with clinicians, consumers and community members and local healthcare organisations.

Board Induction

The Board agreed to hold a one-day induction session in conjunction with its next meeting on 23 July 2012.

This summary of key issues discussed and decisions made is approved for publishing by the Chair of the Townsville Hospital and Health Board and does not form or represent any part of the minutes of the meeting.

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