

**Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District
Board Meeting**

DATE: 20 October 2021 TIME: 4.00pm – 6.30 pm

VENUE: VIA SKYPE

MINUTES

Attendees: (P) Present (A) Apology (Ab) Absent (Nr) Not Required

BOARD MEMBERS			
The Hon. Peter Collins, AM QC (Chair)	P	Mr Robert Lagaida <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Mr Murray Austin <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Dr Peta Seaton, AM <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Associate Professor Stephen Fuller <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Dr Nhi Nguyen <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Professor Ian Seppelt <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Dr Linda McQueen <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Ms Kath Skinner <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Mr Gary Smith <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Mr Clarke Scott <i>(via Skype)</i>	P		
NBMLHD EXECUTIVE & STAFF			
Ms Kay Hyman, Chief Executive	P	Mr Brett Williams, Director Hospital Services <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Ms Jacqui Clark, Director People & Culture <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Ms Julie Williams, Director Nursing & Midwifery <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Mr Luke Bellman, A/Director Finance & Corporate Services <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Dr Karen Arblaster, Director Allied Health, Research & Strategic Partnerships <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Ms Eloise Milthorpe, A/Director Planning <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Ms Debbie Wyburd, Director Clinical Governance <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Mr Paul Grocott, A/Director Media & Communications <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Ms Cathy Crowe, Director Community & Integration <i>(via Skype)</i>	P
Prof Mohamed Khadra, Director Strategy & Innovation	P		
MEDICAL STAFF COUNCIL & JUNIOR MEDICAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES			
Dr Eddy Fischer, Chair, Nepean Medical Staff Council <i>(via Skype)</i>	P	Dr Jim Kalantar, Chair Blue Mountains Medical Staff Council	P
Dr Daniel Pellen, Mental Health Medical Staff Council <i>(via Skype)</i>	P		
WENTWORTH HEALTHCARE LIMITED (Primary Health Network)			
Ms Lizz Reay <i>(via Skype)</i>	P		

1. OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair opened and welcomed attendees to the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District (NBMLHD) Board meeting. Nil apologies were noted.

2. Wentworth Healthcare Limited (Primary Health Network)

Ms Reay provided members with an update on behalf of the Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network. Members were advised of:

1. COVID-19 Vaccine rollout
2. Models of care for COVID positive patients in the community
3. NSW Health and Primary Health Network Joint Statement

Mr Smith reported that the Integrated Care Joint Sub Committee have listed items 1 and 2 for discussion at the November meeting.

3. FEEDBACK FROM MEDICAL STAFF COUNCIL

The Chair welcomed the Medical Staff Council representatives to the meeting and asked for their respective reports.

3.1 Nepean Medical Staff Council

Dr Fischer reported on behalf of Nepean Medical Staff Council. Members were advised that the next Nepean Medical Staff Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, 26 October. The agenda will cover the election for next year's representatives.

3.2 Blue Mountains Springwood Medical Staff Council

Dr Kalantar reported on behalf of the Blue Mountains Springwood Medical Staff Council. Members were advised that the future vision for Blue Mountains patients are to be treated at their local facility rather than being transferred to Nepean Hospital. The Chair highlighted that the Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital upgrade will be added for discussion with Minister Ayers.

3.3 Mental Health Medical Staff Council

Dr Pellen reported on behalf of the Mental Health Medical Staff Council. Dr Pellen highlighted that more Mental Health Medical Staff Councils are being established and will encourage a greater level of access for Mental Health Services across the State. Dr Nguyen highlighted the importance of the District Mental Health MSC being part of the NSW Mental Health Medical Staff Council.

4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members to advise any changes to the conflicts of interest register. Nil were noted.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, 15 September 2021 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Dr Seaton
Seconded: Mr Smith

Action: Endorsed by the NBMLHD Board.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair reported that the Hon. Stuart Ayres, MP will be meeting with the Chair, Chief Executive and Director Hospital Services on Friday, 5 November. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the District to highlight our health services that continue to service the local community. The Chair welcomed any agenda items from other members to add to discussions.

The Chair brought attention to the weekly COVID-19 update from the Chief Executive.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members noted the Chief Executive report for the month of October 2021. The Chief Executive welcomed Prof Mohamed Khadra, Director Strategy & Innovation who will be attending the Board meeting moving forward.

The Chief Executive brought attention to the following:

Healthy People and Communities

COVID-19 Update

The Chief Executive reported on the COVID-19 update that was circulated earlier today.

Vaccination

The Chief Executive provided members with the current data for fully vaccinated rates by Local Government Area:

- Blue Mountains – 85.3%
- Hawkesbury – 83.2%
- Lithgow – 79.6%
- Penrith – 84%

Mr Smith questioned the validity of the vaccine eligible population numbers. The Chief Executive advised that these came from the last census data updated for estimated population growth and acknowledged that they may not be 100% accurate but should be very close. Dr Seaton brought attention to those vulnerable groups who have low vaccination rates and what the District could do to assist in increasing the uptake. The Chief Executive reported on the current strategies in place to capture vulnerable groups including outreach vaccination

services.

The Chief Executive highlighted that third doses are currently available for immunocompromised people. Further information is yet to be provided for third doses for Health Care workers and the community generally. The Chief Executive advised that staff vaccination rates were amongst the highest in the state resulting in a small number of staff unable to work from 30 September 2021.

Business as Usual

The Chief Executive reported returning to business as usual. Members noted that from Monday, 25 October metropolitan Local Health Districts can undertake up to 75% of pre-COVID elective surgery activity. The Chief Executive reported that NBMLHD have an estimated 550-600 elective surgery cases that will need to be undertaken as part of a recovery program.

Sydney Opera House

The Chief Executive reported on a special visual tribute to all NSW Health Staff and the community that was projected on the sails of the Sydney Opera House this week. The photos of 'Health Heroes' included some NBMLHD staff. Members were advised that the celebration marked the State of NSW passing the 80 per cent double vaccination milestone.

Prof Seppelt brought attention to the extraordinary work by the Respiratory Medical Unit at Nepean Hospital. Members were advised of the non-invasive clinical support in managing COVID patients. The outcome of this important work was a considerably reduction in admissions to the Intensive Care Unit at Nepean Hospital. Dr Nguyen stated that Dr Lucy Morgan and many others work in collaboration with NSW Agency Clinical Innovation and NSW Health.

Action: Chair to write a thank you letter to the Respiratory Medical Unit, Nepean Hospital.

Mental Health Month

The Chief Executive reported that October is Mental Health month and in previous years there has been an update from the Mental Health team. The Chief Executive acknowledged the response of the service to the COVID challenges and their flexibility in responding to community needs.

Aboriginal Health

The Chief Executive reported that the Aboriginal health unit continue to focus on supporting Aboriginal people to access COVID vaccination including through the introduction on an 1800 line.

Exceptional Patient and Consumer Experiences and Outcomes

System Capacity

The Chief Executive reported on the System Flow Centre, established by NSW Health to

facilitate improved allocation of COVID-19 patients to hospitals that have capacity and the smoother transfer between hospitals as required. There have been 219 patients across the system and 74 ICU patient movements since commencement. The Chief Executive noted that as COVID-19 cases reduce there will be return to closer monitoring of Emergency Treatment Performance and other system performance KPIs.

Talented, Happy and Engaged Workforce

International Allied Health Professionals' Day

The Chief Executive reported that 14 October is International Allied Health Professionals' Day and this year NBMLHD is marking the occasion with a virtual event showcasing the contribution of allied health staff and the health outcomes that matter to patients.

Junior Medical Officers (JMO)

The Chief Executive reported that JMO recruitment continues with first round offers made. For the first time NBMLHD have all positions have been filled.

NSW Health – Excellence in Nursing & Midwifery Awards

The Chief Executive reported that NBMLHD has two finalist in the Nursing & Midwifery Awards in the following categories:

- **Aboriginal Nurse/Midwife of the Year** – Kasey Wright from Blue Mountains District ANZAC Memorial Hospital
- **Judith Meppem Leadership Award (Nursing/Midwifery)** – Richard Gilfillan from Education & Trainings Services

Western Sydney University – Undergraduate Student Placement Opportunity at Nepean Hospital

The Chief Executive reported that Education & Training Services have established a pilot program for undergraduate nursing student placement at Nepean Hospital, to assist with clinical care in COVID-19 wards. Excellent feedback has been received from Western Sydney University students.

Hub for Research and Innovation

Translational Research Grants Scheme

The Chief Executive highlighted that for this year NBMLHD has submitted 11 expressions of interest for translational research grants. The expressions of interest were reviewed by a panel with 5 being selected to be submitted to NSW Health.

Responsible Governance and Financial Management

YTD September Result

The Chief Executive reported on the Year to Date September result for NBMLHD.

NSW Health Review

The Chief Executive reported that NSW Health have engaged Mr Daly to review the District's financial position and provide suggestions for improvement / cost reductions.

Members held extensive discussion regarding the review. Dr Nguyen highlighted the District commitment to Leading Better Value Care programs as initiatives to improve care whilst minimising cost. Dr Nguyen highlighted the additional staff that have been utilised during COVID-19, how the additional FTE is captured to ensure costs are reimbursed. Prof Khadra stated that Nepean Hospital is the pilot site for low value care and strategies include several efficiencies.

The Chair reported that the Finance & Performance Committee are compiling a paper that will be presented at the meeting with the Hon. Stuart Ayers, MP.

Nepean Hospital and Integrated Ambulatory Service Redevelopment Report

NBMBRIEF21/1505 Nepean Redevelopment Stage 1 – Revised 'Go Live' Move dates

The Chief Executive provided the Board with a paper that outlines the move in dates for Nepean Stage 1 tower. Members were advised that there has been a small delay in completion of the building due to the COVID related slow down. Following detailed analysis of the impact, risks and concerns a change go live dated is recommended. The Chief Executive asked the Board for endorsement of the new 'Go Live' date as of 10 May 2022.

Action: Endorsed by the NBMLHD Board.

Nepean Redevelopment

The Chief Executive reported that the Nepean Stage 1 building works is progressing well. The Chair reported that a tour will be organised for the current and incoming Board members in early 2022.

Action: Secretariat to book tour date for early 2022.

Section B – Appendices

Construction Update

For information.

Section C

NBMLHD KPIs by Directorate

For information.

NBMLHD Emergency Department – Elective Surgery and Hub Performance

For information.

NSW Ministry of Health League Table – August 2021

For information.

NSW Health Staff Vaccination Report – 11 October 2021

For information.

Enterprise Risk Management Report – October 2021

For information.

Media & Communications Board Report September 2021

For information.

8. NBMLHD RESEARCH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Nil report.

9. WORK, HEALTH & SAFETY

9.1 Board Members' Advice to NBMLHD Executive

Nil report.

9.2 NBMLHD Executives' Advice to Board

Nil report.

10. ACTION SHEET

10.1 Behavioural Insights Unit / Private Health Insurance

Dr Seaton reported on information in reference to Private Health Insurance and revenue raising. Ongoing reports will be provided when available.

10.2 NBMBRIEF 21/1432 Assistant in Medicine Program

The Chief Executive reported that the attached brief outlines the Assistants in Medicine program with junior medical staff in the pandemic response. For information.

10.3 Nepean Redevelopment Stage 1 migration

Refer to the Chief Executive Report.

11. CORRESPONDENCE IN

11.1 CM 21/82518 - Letter to the NBMLHD Board - Transitioning the Greater West Aboriginal Health Service GWSAHS back to Community Control in Western Sydney from Wellington AMS

The Chief Executive reported that the Wellington Aboriginal Corporation Health Service has been placed under special administration.

11.2 CM 21/83028 Email to the Chair NBMLHD Board to request re-instatement of Dr Dietz from Ms G McKay

11.3 CM 21/83030 Email to the Chair NBMLHD Board to request re-instatement of Dr Dietz from Ms S Velic

11.4 CM 21/77558 NSW Health - Release of the NSW Primary Health Network – NSW Health Joint Statement

The Chief Executive reported on the release of the NSW Health Joint Statement with the NSW Primary Health Network. The statement highlights the shared commitment to work together to deliver person-centred healthcare. Mr Smith reported that this agenda item has been added to the Integrated Care Joint Board sub-committee for discussion.

11.5 CM 21/84772 Anonymous Letter to the Chair Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Board regarding Drug & Alcohol Services

The Chief Executive reported on the correspondence received regarding Drug & Alcohol Services. Members were advised that the service continues as normal with no reduction to the Service. As the correspondence cannot be responded to the Chief Executive advised that Media & Communications will develop greater information on our website in relation to Drug & Alcohol Service in the hope that this better informs community members.

The Chair advised that the 'correspondence in' is for noting.

12. CORRESPONDENCE OUT

12.1 CM 21/85935 Letter of congratulations to Junior Medical Officer Manager regarding HETI Judy Muller Award

12.2 CM 21/86389 Letter of Response to Ms Modic regarding Prof Dietz

12.3 CM 21/86385 Letter of Response to Ms Greer McKay regarding Professor Dietz

The Chair advised that the 'correspondence out is for noting.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chair reported that for the month of October the majority of Board Sub Committee has been deferred. Members were advised that for the month of November, sub committees will resume to committee functions.

13.1 Aboriginal Health

Nil meeting.

13.2 Audit & Risk Committee

Mr Lagaida reported that the Audit & Risk Committee quadrant report is attached for information. The next Audit & Risk Committee meeting will be held in December.

13.3 Finance & Performance

Mr Lagaida reported that the Finance & Performance Committee meeting was held on Monday, 18 October. Reports are available on the NBMLHD Board portal. The YTD September results were already discussed in details by the Board in the Chief Executive Report under the sections YTD Sept Results and NSW Health Review.

13.4 Health Care Quality Committee (HCQC)

Ms Skinner reported that HCQC meeting was held on Wednesday, 6 October. Members were advised data was unavailable for the month. The NBMLHD Safety and Quality Account will be submitted to the November Board meeting.

13.5 Medical & Dental Staff Appointments Advisory Committee (MDAAC)

Prof Fuller reported that the Medical & Dental Staff Appointments Advisory Committee minutes are attached for information.

13.6 Integrated Care

Nil meeting.

13.7 Research

Nil meeting.

13.8 Strategy & Planning

Nil meeting.

13.9 Workforce & Culture

Nil meeting.

13.10 Work, Health & Safety

Nil meeting.

14 BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil business without notice.

15 FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The meeting closed at 5:56pm.

16 NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 17 November 2021
Time: 4.00pm – 6.30pm
Venue: To be confirmed

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Board Minutes 20 October 2021.



The Hon. Peter Collins, AM, QC.

Date: 17 /11 / 2021