

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

DATE: 20 April 2022 TIME: 4.00pm – 6.30 pm

VENUE: Nepean Clinical Tower,
Theatre Meeting Room, Level 3

MINUTES

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

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

1. OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Chair opened the Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District (NBMLHD) Board meeting with an Acknowledgement to Country. Apologies were noted.

2. Wentworth Healthcare Limited (Primary Health Network)

Ms Reay provided members with an update on behalf of Wentworth Healthcare Limited.

Members were advised of:

- Services from the Federal Budget
- Minister Hunt announcement regarding Head Space in the Hawkesbury
- Head to Health Kids Hub – Centre opening in Penrith
- Floods and the impact on the local community
- Health Pathways joint program between the District and Primary Health Network has been recognised by NSW Health.

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.

3.2 Blue Mountains Springwood Medical Staff Council

Dr Kalantar reported on behalf of the Blue Mountains & Springwood Medical Staff Council.

The following was noted:

- Continue to rally for the One Hospital in the Blue Mountains.
- Staff Specialist office space
- Discussion from the March meeting on nursing staff levels on the Children's ward has been resolved.

Dr Daniel Pellen has been appointed as Chair, Medical Staff Executive Council.

3.3 Mental Health Medical Staff Council

Members noted that Dr Pellen was an apology. The Chief Executive reported on behalf of Dr Pellen.

Members were advised that staffing instability continues to be the biggest concern for the Mental Health Medical Staff Council. The Mental Health Executive have agreed to a deadline of mid-August by which time they are confident of successfully filling 6 Staff Specialists positions that are currently filled by locums. The Mental Health Medical Staff Council accepts the Executive's prerogative but believes based on experience this will not be achievable and argued that some of the positions should be advertised as VMOs.

4. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chair asked members to advise any changes to the conflicts of interest register. Dr Seaton reported on her recent appointment as Chair, Bundanon Trust. Members noted that the new members will forward their completed declaration in the near future.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, 16 March 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Dr Seaton
Seconded: Prof Seppelt

Action: Endorsed by the NBMLHD Board.

6. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chair welcomed new members to the NBMLHD Board and stated that this is a new era as a NBMLHD Board member with the opening of the Nepean Tower in May 2022.

The Chair reported on the visit by the Premier, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet, NSW Minister for Health, the Hon. Brad Hazzard, MP and the Hon. Stuart Ayers, MP. The Chair highlighted the history of Nepean Hospital and how this is a time to celebrate on the quality health services that are provided to the community within Nepean Blue Mountains. Members were reminded of the important collaboration between the Board, Medical Staff Council, staff and consumers who all played an integral part to set up the new hospital, ensuring services cater for the people who use the service.

Members held discussion on the upcoming Federal Election on Saturday 21 May. The Chair highlighted the important bids for a new Cancer and Wellness Centre located on Nepean campus and the continued community and medical staff support for a new hospital in the Blue Mountains. Dr Seaton provided members with an update of her continued discussions with key government MPs and local Senators. Dr Nguyen reported on the importance of a Cancer and Wellness Centre as Stage 3 for Nepean Hospital.

7. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members noted the CE report for the month of April 2022. The Chief Executive brought attention to the following:

Healthy People and Communities

COVID-19 Update

The Chief Executive provided members with an update of the COVID-19 locally acquired cases. Members were advised that the number of cases locally is broadly in line with what would be expected as the LHD's population share of the total NSW cases. The Chief

Executive reported on the anticipated influenza season and that all staff are encouraged to have a flu vaccination.

Newmarch House Coronial Inquest

The Chief Executive reported that the Coronial Inquest relating to the COVID-19 deaths of residents of Newmarch House in 2020 is now scheduled for three weeks from 25 July 2022.

Exceptional Patient and Consumer Experiences and Outcomes

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Wait times for inpatients

The Chief Executive reported on NBMLHD data on an upward trend in total bed days for patients waiting for NDIS supports. Members were advised that this is consistent with NSW trends. The greatest wait times relate to “support implementation”. Dr Seaton brought attention to her Board appointment to NDIA and stated she would be interested to better understand this data in order to advocate on behalf of NDIS patients.

Action: Chief Executive to provide Dr Seaton with more information on the NDIS data.

Hawkesbury District Health Service Contract

The Chief Executive provided an update on the Hawkesbury District Health Service contract discussions. Dr Rombola declared that he is a member of the Medical Advisory Council at Hawkesbury Hospital.

Elective Surgery Performance

The Chief Executive noted the Surgery Dashboard Report for February. A number of KPIs are red but NBMLHD is performing comparatively well against peers.

Talented, Happy and Engaged Workforce

Refugee Employment Strategy – Multicultural Health

The Chief Executive reported that during December 2021 and January 2022 key stakeholders fast tracked a custom designed six week rolling training by TAFE NSW for interested CALD and Refugee individuals. The aim is for applicants to build their capacity to apply for and interview for the 60 vacant Hospital Grade 2 positions advertised for Tower one. Over 40 individuals expressing an EOI for the TAFE training and a number of applicants have already secured employment in the first round of interviews.

TAFE have advised they see this initiative as best practice and would like to replicate it in other LHD's. They are passionate about providing targeted training programs which lead to employment. NBMLHD Multicultural Health Service is currently exploring the possibility of establishing a CALD and Refugee Traineeship Program aiming for five positions by May 2023.

Excellent Allied Health Student Experiences

The University of Sydney has recently analysed data for allied health student experiences of clinical placements for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021. NBMLHD is a top performing LHD with ratings across all areas of student experience being good to exceptional, and ratings improving during 2021 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Disciplines included in this data are: physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, exercise physiology and medical radiation sciences. Facilities and services included are: Nepean Hospital, Blue Mountains and Springwood Hospitals, Primary Care and Community Health, and Mental Health.

This is an excellent result for NBMLHD that should support recruitment of high quality new graduates and contribute to strengthening our allied health workforce.

Industrial Action

The Chief Executive provided an update with regard to recent industrial activities.

Responsible Governance and Financial Management

Year to Date (YTD) March Result

The Chief Executive reported the March YTD result. Members were advised that the District's year end forecast has improved. Mr Tedeschi asked how the current financial position compares to pre COVID-19.

Lithgow Community Private

Members were provided with an update regarding discussions with Lithgow Community Private.

Nepean Hospital and Integrated Ambulatory Services Redevelopment Report

Redevelopment Report

The Chief Executive advised that commissioning activities are underway and progressing well. Commissioning champions have been appointed and activities have in preparation for Go Live from 10 May (with the exception of Emergency Department and Cardiology – October 2022). The Chief Executive noted the positive involvement of the Medical Staff Council, staff generally and consumers throughout the project.

Section B – Appendices

1. Construction Update
For information.

Section C

1. NBMLHD KPIs by Directorate
For information.

Dr Seaton questions to what extent Hospital Acquired Complications impacted length of stay. Dr Nguyen supported Dr Seaton's comments and highlighted the importance of flow especially with the opening of the new Tower. It was agreed there would be further discussion at the May meeting on this very important topic.

Action: For further discussion at the May Board meeting.

2. NBMLHD Emergency Department – Elective Surgery and Hub Performance – March 2022
For information.
3. NSW Ministry of Health League Table – February 2022
For information.
4. Surgery Dashboard – February 2022
For information.
5. Corporate Communications Board Report March 2022
For information.

8. NEPEAN 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 Clinical Coder data for all LHDs

The Chief Executive provided some comparative data to give context to the District's result of 5.48%. Members were reminded that the coders are only able to code what is documented by medical staff. Junior Medical Staff are provided with education sessions as part of their orientation and now that staff can move more freely across the LHD, clinician education sessions are being reinstated.

10.2 Research Partnerships – Prof Negishi – funds from MOH

The Chief Executive apologised that this has not been followed up. Update to be provided at the May meeting.

10.3 Nursing staff levels on Children's ward at Blue Mountains ANZAC District Memorial Hospital

Members were advised that the concern raised by the Blue Mountains Medical Staff Council report has been resolved.

10.4 SJOG – National Centre for Psychological Trauma

The Chair brought attention to the proposal that was forwarded to the Minister for Health. Members noted the LHDs has identified and advised the Ministry of Health with regard to areas for consideration, particularly workforce overall, the management of scheduled patients and the need for community support following discharge.

11. CORRESPONDENCE IN

11.1 CM22/17556 Complaint to the Chair regarding loss of brother Mr S James

Members noted actions taken with regarding to the complaint.

The Chair advised that the ‘correspondence in’ is for noting.

12. CORRESPONDENCE OUT

12.1 CM22/13528 Thank you letter to Mr Clarke Scott for this services as NBMLHD Board member

The Chair advised that the ‘correspondence out’ is for noting.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.1 Aboriginal Health

Nil report.

13.2 Audit & Risk Committee

Mr Lagaida reported that the attached Audit & Risk Committee quadrant report is for noting.

13.2.1 CM22/13255 Audit & Risk Annual Report

Mr Lagaida reported that the attached Audit & Risk Annual Report is for noting.

13.2.2 CM22/13256 Audit & Risk Committee Assessment of External Audit 2021

Mr Lagaida reported that the attached Audit & Risk Assessment of External Audit 2021 is for noting.

13.2.3 Audit & Risk Committee – sub-committee annual report

Members reviewed the Audit & Risk Committee annual report and noted that appropriate processes are in place. Mr Lagaida highlighted the role of the Audit & Risk Sub Committee.

13.3 Finance & Performance

Mr Lagaida reported that the next Finance & Performance Committee meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, 27 April 2022. Reports will be available on the NBMLHD Board portal. Budget strategy over the next 6 months.

13.4 Health Care Quality Committee (HCQC)

Prof Seppelt reported that the attached HCQC report is for noting.

13.5 Medical & Dental Staff Appointments Advisory Committee

Nil report.

13.6 Integrated Care Joint Board

Nil report.

13.7 Research

Mr Austin reported the next Research Committee meeting is scheduled on 9 June 2022.

13.8 Strategy & Planning Committee

Members noted that the next Strategy & Planning Committee meeting is scheduled on 21 June 2022.

13.9 Workforce & Culture

Members noted that the next Workforce & Culture Committee meeting is scheduled on 26 April 2022.

13.10 Work, Health & Safety

Members noted that the next Work, Health & Safety Committee meeting is scheduled on 26 April 2022.

The Chair reported that the Board Sub Committees appointments will be allocated at the May Board meeting.

Action: Secretariat to provide Board Sub Committee information to members and collate response prior to the May Board meeting.

14. BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil business without notice.

15. FOR INFORMATION ONLY

The meeting closed at 6.15 pm.

16. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 18 May 2022
Time: 4.00pm – 6.30pm
Venue: Lithgow Hospital

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Board Minutes 20 April 2022.



The Hon. Peter Collins, AM, QC.

Date: 18 /05 /2022