

Communiqué

Health Support Services Board



This communiqué highlights key discussions from the recent HSS Board meeting.

2 April 2026

This month, the Board marked the closure of the Joornanginy program with a morning tea with the program team. The program has been highly successful and has supported HSS to deliver its Strategic Plan 2022–2026 through to its scheduled completion in June 2026. The Board has also provided input into the new HSS Strategy 2026–2029, which is currently being developed.



Key matters discussed at the meeting

At the meeting, the Board approved variations to two significant contracts, and considered a new External Stakeholder Strategy and the draft *Made in WA Policy*.

Key discussions included WA Government and whole-of-health system priorities, as well as important updates from the Human Resource Management Information System (HRMIS) and Electronic Medical Record (EMR) programs, HSS' strategic ICT initiatives, and the HSS Program Delivery portfolio.

The Board received updates on HSS' financial and operational performance for February 2026, key strategic risks, and an overview of the matters considered by the Customer Advisory Committee at its meeting on 10 March 2026. The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee Chair also provided an update on the Office of the Auditor General Annual Financial Audit Entry Meeting.

Board Member Mandy McKnight reflected that Easter Monday this year marked the 150th anniversary of one of Western Australia’s most daring and inspiring stories — the incredible escape of six Irish political prisoners from Fremantle Prison and subsequent rescue by the American barque Catalpa off the shores of Rockingham in 1876. This escapade has been described by the Smithsonian Institute as “the most audacious escape rivalling any Oceans 11 plot”. The Hon Stephen Dawson, MLC, described it as a story of justice, loyalty, political imprisonment and throughout all - audacious hope. It is a wonderful example of perseverance and the human spirit.

Summary of standing items for discussion and noting

The Board received the following reports and papers for discussion or noting:

- Chief Executive’s Report
- Chief Financial Officer’s Report
- Performance Report
- A/Chief Information Officer’s Report
- Digital Medical Record/Electronic Medical Record Report
- Program Delivery Report
- Board Administration Report.

Attendance

Ms Margaret Pyrchla (Board Chair)	Ms Pina Caffarelli	Mr Mark Donovan
Dr Con Phatouros (Deputy Chair)	Dr David McCoubrie	Ms Yaso Ponnuthurai
Mr Peter Mott	Dr Paul Boyatzis	Ms Amanda McKnight

Apologies

Nil

Standing Executive invitees

Mr Giles Nunis, Chief Executive
Ms Emily Pestell, A/Executive Director, People, Capability and Culture
Mr Sash Tomson, Chief Financial Officer
Mr Ralph Bates, Executive Director, Customer Experience
Mr Mark Thompson, Chief Procurement Officer
Mr Anthony Lenzarini, A/Chief Information Officer
Ms Julie Mount, A/Executive Director, Program Delivery
Dr Sumit Sinha-Roy, Executive Director, EMR
Ms Neha Patel, Executive Director, HRMIS

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 7 May 2026 at 140 William Street, Perth WA 6000.

Margaret Pyrchla
Chair, Health Support Services Board