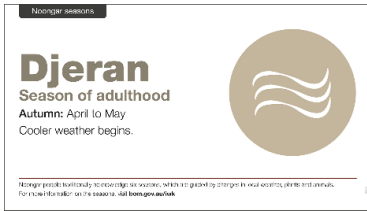


# SMHS Board Communiqué

*Excellent health care, every time*

## April 2026 meeting

This communiqué highlights key discussions of interest at the South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS) Board meeting which was held at Fiona Stanley Hospital (FSH) on Tuesday 28 April 2026.



Djeran sees a break in the really hot weather associated with the preceding Bunuru season. Cool nights once again bring a dewy presence to the early mornings.

The winds also change, especially in their intensity, with light breezes generally swinging from southeast to southwest.

Ms Pearl Proud provided an Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar lands on which the Board was meeting. Pearl reflected on attending an ANZAC Day ceremony in Sydney, including a Welcome to Country, and the importance of continuing to assert respect for Indigenous cultures and the privilege to be on this land.

In patient stories, the Board heard about a patient who was 18 months post-lung transplant when he presented to FSH emergency department after contracting influenza A and subsequently overcame a series of life-threatening conditions to make a full recovery and return to work, with support from numerous specialties and services across FSH. A second inspiring story was regarding the second patient in Australia to participate in the SMHS outpatient a Chimeric Antigen Receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy program with remote patient monitoring. The patient received his infusion and three days later was able to be monitored from home while he enjoyed his daughter's first birthday.

As the Board meeting was held during Patient Experience week, Deputy Board Chair Sue Le Souef and I were pleased to attend the SMHS Compassionate Care awards ceremonies at some of the sites, where nominated individuals were recognised for demonstrating the SMHS values of Care, Integrity, Respect, Excellence and Teamwork in the delivery of compassionate care.



*Pictured: Compassionate Care Awards winners at Rockingham General Hospital with Deputy Board Chair Sue Le Souef (above) and at Fiona Stanley Hospital with Board Chair Liam Roche (below).*



The Board Committee Chairs shared updates on items considered at their April 2026 meetings:

- The Safety and Quality Committee members and other Board members received a Quality Improvement presentation on volunteer involvement in falls prevention. The Committee also received a quarterly Patient Experience report, attended an informative presentation on Making Data Count, by Samantha Riley of the NHS. During the meeting, the Committee also reviewed quarterly project reports, a recent Board to Ward visit report and quarterly Safety and Quality Indicator Set reports for maternity and mental health.
- The Finance and Governance Committee reviewed the financial performance and contract management exception report for March 2026.
- The Audit and Risk Committee received a comprehensive quarterly work health and safety update, reviewed the audit log and risk register for March 2026 and received the litigation schedule and integrity and ethics report.
- The People, Culture and Engagement Committee received six-monthly updates on the Put it to the People Sustainability and Communication plan, and the Consumer Feedback Strategy 2023-2027. The Committee also welcomed an update from Dr Jon Chan, SMHS Chief Wellbeing Practitioner and reviewed the workforce dashboard and communications activity.

In the Chief Executive's report, Neil Doverty provided updates on:

- SMHS Winter strategy initiatives and progress
- Recent meeting with the Hon Minister John Carey MLA, Minister for Health Infrastructure.

The annual SMHS Excellence Awards took place on Friday 1 May, held this year at Murdoch University, where we celebrated excellence across our health service and those who continue to make a difference for our community every day. Congratulations to our winners and finalists.



The next Board meeting will take place on Monday 25 May 2026 at FSH.

**Mr Liam Roche**  
**Board Chair, South Metropolitan Health Service**

5 May 2026