



East Metropolitan Health Service Board

Modernising how we govern and manage WA Health for better care and better value

Why has a Health Service Board been appointed?

- The *Health Services Act 2016* commenced 1 July 2016 to modernise the WA public health system, setting out how we govern, structure and manage WA Health to bring decision-making closer to service delivery and patient care.
- The East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS) has been established as a separate statutory authority, governed by a Board that is legally responsible and accountable for the delivery of safe, high-quality and efficient health services.

Who is on the EMHS Board?

- The EMHS Board is comprised of 10 highly capable and committed professionals with a diverse range of experience across the fields of medicine and health care, finance, law, and community and consumer engagement.
- Members were selected following a rigorous selection process and bring a wealth of skills and experience to the board.

Board Chair

- **Mr Ian Smith PSM** has held senior roles in WA Health including Chief Executive of the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS), and more recently, Chief Executive of Commissioning at Perth Children's Hospital. Mr Smith has led multiple upgrades and redevelopment capital infrastructure projects, including Albany Hospital, and championed the implementation of the Southern Inland Health Initiative by WACHS and the Department of Regional Development. He was awarded a Public Service Medal in 2014 for outstanding public service to the provision of health services in Western Australia over many years.

Board Members

- **Mrs Suzie May (Deputy Chair)** is a lawyer and a trained welfare officer, working initially in psychiatric and rehabilitation hospitals before establishing a private legal consultancy. Mrs May has significant experience in court diversion, therapeutic jurisprudence and judicial case management. Additionally, she brings to the board a diverse range of skills and expertise as an active consumer advocate, motivational speaker, university guest lecturer, board member, advisor, provider of mentoring services and published author in 13 countries.
- **Mr Peter Forbes** is a chartered accountant with more than 30 years' professional experience in finance, insurance and medical indemnity, working closely with the medical and dental professions throughout Australia. He is a non-executive director of the Lions Eye Institute and Chair of private health insurer Transport Health. Mr Forbes has undertaken a range of committee roles during his career in areas such as audit, risk and compliance.
- **Mr Ross Keesing** has worked in the health industry for 40 years, initially as a health facility architect and project director, then in a number of directorships and as an Assistant Commissioner for WA Health. Mr Keesing has experience managing WA metropolitan and regional health services, as well as private hospitals. As a consultant for nearly two decades, Mr Keesing has provided a wide range of tactical and strategic advice on health issues and directions to Australian governments and to governments in the Middle East.
- **Mr Richard Guit** is a partner in the infrastructure group at the global law firm Ashurst. With a diverse background in public-private partnership and infrastructure, Mr Guit has extensive experience working with government agencies, investors and financiers across a range of infrastructure sectors. Mr Guit's main area of focus is social and economic infrastructure, and he has advised on health-related undertakings in Australia and the UK such as the development of

new acute hospitals, and the implementation of primary care initiatives and clinical outsourcings.

- **Ms Debra Zanella** has worked in the not for profit sector for over 20 years, with significant experience in senior leadership roles in health and community services, particularly in the area of complex needs. Ms Zanella is currently Chief Executive Officer of Ruah Community Services, an organisation that provides a range of services to address circumstances of disadvantage and marginalisation in the community, including housing and homelessness, mental health and domestic violence.
- **Professor Kingsley Faulkner AM** has worked in a range of clinical positions in both the UK and Western Australia. As well as his widely acclaimed surgical work, he has also contributed to the broader community and health sector through health advocacy, a range of teaching roles at the University of Western Australia and the University of Notre Dame. Professor Faulkner received a Member of the Order of Australia award in 2006 for service to medicine, and is also a Professor at the University of Notre Dame School of Medicine.
- **Dr Hannah Seymour** is Medical Co-Director for rehabilitation, mental health services and the women, children and newborn service at Fiona Stanley Hospital where she played an instrumental role in the commissioning of these areas including the State Rehabilitation Service. With a clinical background in geriatric medicine, Dr Seymour has also held leadership roles in various health areas including falls, rehabilitation, aged care, models of care service delivery and workforce planning, and brings with her extensive experience in WA Health.
- **Dr Stephanie Trust** is a Kidja woman, born and raised in the East Kimberley where she is currently a general practitioner at Kununurra Medical. Initially trained as an enrolled nurse, Dr Trust went on to work as an Aboriginal health worker in the Kimberley and Pilbara for nearly 12 years before becoming a doctor. Dr Trust has been a key member of boards such as the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association, the Kimberly-Pilbara Medicare Local and the Kimberly Stolen Generation Aboriginal Corporation.
- **Ms Geraldine Ennis PSM** has over 30 years' experience improving the delivery of health services in rural and remote communities. A registered nurse and midwife, Ms Ennis has been the Goldfields Regional Director of WA Country Health Service for the last 10 years, and was formerly Director of Nursing and Health Service Manager of Katanning Hospital where she was actively involved in establishing and working with the Board of Management for Katanning Health Service. Ms Ennis was also previously Chair of St Patrick's Catholic School Board in Katanning.

What are the benefits to patients, our workforce and the community?

- Health Service Boards will bring a diverse range of skills and experience to ensure the delivery of safe, high-quality and sustainable health care to our communities.
- Greater local authority and accountability for the delivery of health services to the community.
- More responsive and innovative health services to meet local needs, including greater focus on local networks and partnerships to deliver care closer to home.
- Improvements to the performance of our Health Services over time, for example, in clinical safety and quality outcomes, financial performance and the patient experience.

More information

- Fact sheets and more detailed information on Health Service Boards and Chairs and Members are available on the WA Health website ww2.health.wa.gov.au/boards
- Email: health.reform@health.wa.gov.au

Related Fact Sheets

- *The Role of Health Services and Boards*
- *Changes to the governance of WA Health*
- *The Health Services Act 2016: A Snapshot*
- *The Role of the Department of Health*
- *The Role of Health Support Services*
- *WA Health Reform Program 2015-2020*