

**Eyre and Far North Local Health Network
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday 27 October 2022 12.00pm – 3.00pm
Wudinna & Districts Telecentre + Teams**

Name	Position/Title	Attendance	Item
Michele Smith	Chair	P	All
Leanne Dunchue	Member – via Teams	P	All
Dr David Mills	Member – via Teams	P	All
Jamie Siviour	Member	P	All
Christine Thyer	Member – via Teams	P	All
Trevor Smith	Member	P	All
Chris Sweet	Member – via Teams	P	All
Peter Auhl	Member – via Teams	P	All
Attendees			
Verity Paterson	Chief Executive Officer EFNLHN	P	All
Hudson Vieira	Chief Finance Officer EFNLHN	P	All
Jane Robinson	Director Governance and Strategy EFNLHN	P	All
Guests			
Julie Marron	Executive Director Nursing and Midwifery Services EFNLHN	P	All
Sharon Ryan	Executive Director Community & Allied Health EFNLHN	P	Item 3.2
Kathryn Cronin	Director Mental Health EFNLHN	P	Item 3.3
Jo Eaton	Director People and Culture EFNLHN	P	Items 2.1, 3.1
Cathy Teager	Manager Ageing and Disability Reform, Rural Support Service	P	Item 3.4

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands we are meeting upon today.
 We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal people to country.
 We also pay respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people visiting/attending from other areas of South Australia present here.

Eyre and Far North Local Health Network GOVERNING BOARD Meeting Minutes 27/10/2022		
	Agenda Item	Discussion Points
1.	OPENING	Meeting opened at 12.00pm, with quorum
	1.1 In Camera Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil.
	1.2 Welcome and Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledgement of Country. • C. Thyer not present at start of meeting. • No other apologies.
	1.3 Interests and Conflicts Disclosure Log	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted. • M. Smith declared that she has been appointed to the SA Health Voluntary Assisted Dying Review Board. • L. Dunchue declared unpaid work she had undertaken on the Streaky Bay Medical Practice Inc annual financial accounts.
	1.4 Confirmation of previous Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirmed, seconded by C. Sweet, agreement to Minutes being signed by the Chair.
	1.5 Actions from previous Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed and confirmed.
	1.6 Notification of Other Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil.
	1.7 Patient Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • V. Paterson described a busy 24-hour period at Wudinna Hospital and praised staff for their professionalism and high standard of patient care.
2.	STRATEGIC DISCUSSION	
	2.1 Workforce Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ that EFNLHN is experiencing significant workforce pressures, with challenges recruiting to all disciplines but particularly Nursing, and a high turnover of staff, particularly in Allied Health. ○ COVID-19 had resulted in some staff re-evaluating their priorities and either retiring or accelerating early retirement, and had stopped the flow of overseas trained clinicians and staff ○ Current HR systems, process and resources were not sufficient to meet demand ○ Discussions had occurred about options to address the challenge in the immediate and medium term, including strengthening marketing of job vacancies and EFNLHN as a place to work, creating a position to work on staff recognition and wellness strategies, and another to work on accommodation options for staff. • Discussion about options should the LHN be unable to fill rosters, particularly over the Christmas and New Year break. • Board reiterated that its priority was to maintain patient safety at all times and unanimously agreed that its preference was to keep services open.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board asked to be consulted before any decisions were taken to suspend services, so all options could be considered.
3.	MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION	
	3.1 Culture Quarterly Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> C. Thyer joined the meeting at 12.35pm. Board noted the quarterly update and good progress made on resilience and mental health first aider programs, and an increase in the numbers of newly graduated Nurses participating in the Transition to Professional Practice Program for Nursing and Midwifery. Board directed that the LHN generate KPIs relating to culture with progress to be reported quarterly, and to encourage staff to engage with feedback tools as current low response rates meant it was challenging to obtain meaningful statistical information about the state of the LHN's culture.
	3.2 NDIS Quarterly Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted the report, including that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) did not set national Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) so the LHN was generating its own KPIs to monitor performance, as well as strengthening clinical risk and management oversight, particularly at intake.
	3.3 Mental Health Quarterly Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted the report and good progress made over the quarter, including the introduction of a MH Nurse Practitioner to provide clinical care and assessment, capacity building and education.
	3.4 Commonwealth Aged Care Reforms Update 3.4.1 Minute to rLHN Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a presentation about Commonwealth aged care reforms that analysis would be presented to the next Board meeting about the State and LHN response, focused on workforce and financial (costing) modelling, and infrastructure needs. That each regional LHN would develop a Business Plan setting out the future direction of aged care services locally, using a template that all the regional LHNs would use, to present to the Minister. Discussion about: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> whether additional capital funding would be made available for Multi Purpose Service (MPS) sites. options to fund aged care services differently, particularly in relation to MPS sites.
	3.5 Chief Executive Officer Report 3.5.1 CEO Report October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted progress with GP recruitment activities at Ceduna, Streaky Bay and Kimba. Discussion about progress with implementation of the new Fee for Service (FFS) Agreement which underpins new country GP contracts and an issue about the rate of

	<p>3.5.2 Performance Report October 2022</p> <p>3.5.2.1 EFNLHN Performance Report October 2022 (October data)</p> <p>3.5.2.2 SA Health Performance Framework KPIs August 2022</p> <p>3.5.3 Executive Committee Summary October 2022</p> <p>3.5.4 Diligent Contract Renewal</p>	<p>backpay for GPs at one EFNLHN-owned practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been one method of calculating backpay discussed and agreed with those GPs before they signed letters of agreement to accept the new contract, their contracts had then taken eight months to be executed, which applied a different and lower rate. • Board unanimously agreed that EFNLHN should honor the amount discussed and agreed in the original negotiation and pay the higher rate, not doing so would create a real risk that they would leave. • Board sought that more detail be provided about the cost of the backpay issue and how the discrepancy had occurred. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board noted the performance reports, including that EFNLHN is still the best performing Local Health Network in the State. • Board also noted changes to the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) against which all LHN performance is measured for 2022-23, which meant more LHNs could meet some of them and made it more challenging for EFNLHN to continue to be rated as the top performer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted. • Noted. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board unanimously approved a contract renewal for the Diligent service for two years.
	<p>3.6 Finance Report</p> <p>3.6.1 Finance Report October 2022</p> <p>3.6.2 Service Agreement 2022-23</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board noted the report, including ongoing cost pressures relating to COVID-19, the EFNLHN-owned medical practices, and the cost of agency staff. • Board reviewed the draft Service Agreement and unanimously approved the Agreement and the Chair to sign the Agreement on behalf of the Board.
	<p>3.7 Board Committees</p> <p>3.7.1 Finance and Performance Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board noted the Minutes, and Committee Chair, L. Dunchue, raised hospital Emergency Department (ED) readmission rates and an issue about patients trying and failing to secure GP appointments and coming back to the ED.

	<p>3.7.2 Clinical Governance Committee</p> <p>3.7.3 Audit and Risk Committee</p> <p>3.7.4 Consumer, Community and Clinical Engagement Committee</p> <p>3.7.5 Tier 1 Committee Board Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted the Minutes, and that the permanent Executive Director Medical Services was returning from an extended break in early January 2023, with cover arrangements in place til then. Board noted that the Committee had not met in the reporting period. Board noted the Minutes, and Committee Co-Chair C.Thyer noted an initiative raised by Health Advisory Councils to promote accolades for staff, particularly for their COVID work. Discussion about the country combined HAC Conference and confirmation that EFNLHN would host that conference in 2025 Board unanimously approved that new Board member. P. Auhl, join the Tier 1 Clinical Governance Committee meeting to attend every second meeting, and join the Tier 1 Audit and Risk Committee.
	3.8 Chairperson Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted the update.
	3.9 Digital Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board unanimously approved taking part in a cyber security preparedness workshop, combined with a workshop to explore digital technology opportunities and challenges.
4.	MATTERS FOR NOTING	
	<p>4.1 Far North Service Planning Progress Report</p> <p>4.2 Major Correspondence</p> <p>4.2.1 RSS Governance meeting Minutes August 2022</p> <p>4.2.2 Chief Executive's Council HCEC Presentation</p> <p>4.2.3 AGD Letter re Completion External Audit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted. Noted Noted Noted
5.	OTHER BUSINESS	
	5.1 Other Business from Item 1.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board noted that EFNLHN had won three awards at the Nursing and Midwifery Excellence Awards.
6.	MEETING FINALISATION	
	6.1 Review actions to be taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noted.

	6.2 Meeting Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed.
	6.3 Agenda items for next meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board members reminded about the Annual Public Meeting being held in Ceduna on 15 December 5pm – 6pm.
	6.4 Meeting Close	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.04pm
Next Meeting: 15 December 2022 Ceduna District Health Services Conference Room 1.00pm – 4.00pm		

Minutes approved



Michele Smith.
Chair, Eyre and Far North Local Health Network
15 December 2022