

PATHWEST Board Communiqué

This Communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the 6 March Board Meeting.



KEY MATTERS:

Procurement - Core Laboratory Testing Solution

Mr. Aus Molan, Director, Procurement, presented a comprehensive presentation and briefing on this integral laboratory procurement project. He noted that streamlining PathWest's procurement processes over a three-year period has resulted in readiness for award of this major project, with Board endorsement.

The Core Laboratory Testing Solution is central to the operations of 27 laboratories across metropolitan and regional Western Australia, supporting pathology disciplines in the delivery of core functions. The new streamlined process will encompass a procurement panel approach, focused on delivering:

- Upgraded laboratory equipment aligned to current and future needs of PathWest.
- Ongoing innovation and improvement efforts.
- Streamlining workflow processes and increasing efficiencies to boost throughput.

The Board acknowledged the significant savings that will be realised from this approach, and extensive change management process that will be undertaken with laboratory staff. Additionally, Board members noted the extensive process and diligence of the procurement team in reaching this result.

Kalgoorlie Travel

In recent years the PathWest Board has undertaken annual trips to regional collection centres and laboratories throughout Western Australia. These provide Board members with an understanding of the procedures, practices, and challenges of regional operations, facilitate regional staff interaction with Board members and provide insights into the 'day in the life' of a PathWest regional staff member.

The 2025 regional visit will entail a visit to the Kalgoorlie collection centre and laboratory. PathWest will also engage with the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) Board and Chief Executive. At the March meeting, Board members set objectives for this travel, to maximise engagement with staff and system stakeholders and leverage learnings.

STANDING REPORTS:

Finance and Business Performance Report

Mr. Sandy Kerr, Executive Director, Finance, Procurement and Commercial Services, presented the Finance and Business Performance Report. This report focused on the application of sound financial management practices for PathWest's assets, and the stabilisation of service delivery costs against source revenue from previously reported holiday season fluctuations.

Chief Executive Report

Dr. Hadlow presented the Chief Executive report which referenced:

- Finalisation of the new Health Services Union WA industrial agreement and the flow on effects for PathWest staff.
- The commencement of an external governance review of Diagnostic Genomics to enhance procedures and operations of the department, and support continued growth of this vital discipline.

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR:

In February the PathWest Board received the resignation of Board member and Committee member of the People and Culture Committee, Ms. Tracey Brand. On behalf of the Board, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Brand for her contributions to PathWest and the Board over her tenure.

This month, I was pleased to meet with the Director General of Health, Dr Shirley Bowen, for the first time in 2025. Additionally, prior to the March Board meeting, the Board, PathWest Executive and numerous other PathWest staff, celebrated our Chief Pathologist, Dr Priyanthi Kumarasinghe, for being awarded the prestigious RCPA Distinguished Fellow Award 2025. Dr Kumarasinghe is highly respected throughout PathWest, the State and internationally for her pathology expertise, and we are delighted to see her hard work and dedication to the health and well-being of our society being recognised in such an honourable manner.

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held in Perth on 3 April 2025.



Ms. Angie Paskevicius
Chair, PathWest Board
March 2025