

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NORTHLAND DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD  
HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**HELD ON MONDAY 02 OCTOBER 2017  
ST JOHN AMBULANCE HALL, KAWAKAWA**

**COMMENCING AT 2.35 PM**

**PRESENT**

John Bain (Chair)  
Debbie Evans  
Gary Payinda

Sally Macauley  
Denise Jensen

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Nick Chamberlain, Meng Cheong, Andrew Potts, Jeanette Wedding, Kathryn Leydon,  
Ian McKenzie, Jodie Moselen (notes)

**FIRE PROCEDURES**

The fire exits were noted

**APOLOGIES**

Libby Jones, Sue Brown

**It was moved that the apologies have been received by the Committee**

**MOVED Sally Macauley SECONDED Debbie Evans CARRIED**

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair reminded Board members that in keeping with agreed protocol, conflicts of interest should be declared on a meeting-by-meeting basis as issues arise

**1. COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**1.1 Confirmation of Minutes 21 August 2017**

**It was moved that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2017 be approved**

**MOVED Denise Jensen SECONDED Debbie Evans CARRIED**

**1.2 Matters/Actions Arising**

**1.2.1 Report on Human Resource costs for District Hospitals**

- Related to confidential HR matters

**1.2.2 Update on ASH Project**

- The project consists of a working group focusing on the respiratory needs of those aged zero to four years
- The project looks at factors that increase the risk of readmissions due to respiratory issues such as environment and if the home is smoke free
- Request for change to ED documentation to capture whether children presenting to ED live in smoke free homes

### **1.2.3 Update on the implementation of Health in All Policies (HiAP)**

- This project entails working with different sector services that link with health to make sure health needs are reflected in policy making
- The project is in its early stages and is currently being scoped

## **2. CHAIR'S REPORT**

- No chair's report

## **3. SYSTEMS PERFORMANCE**

### **3.1 Operational Report**

- Acute services activity remains high with increased occupancy on the wards and in ED where presentations are up 9.1% from this time last year
- The Te Ara Oranga methamphetamine reduction initiative has begun in conjunction with New Zealand Police
- There were no reported falls with harm or hospital acquired pressure injuries for July
- Elective discharges target has been achieved for July
- Colonoscopy wait times are still an issue but a locum gastroenterologist is due to commence work in October which will help reduce the waitlist
- The outbreak of Norovirus resulted in the closing of some wards to new admissions for a period of time increasing pressure in other areas of Whangarei Hospital
- A Northland Sexual and Reproductive Health Strategic Plan is currently being developed using a consumer co-design methodology
- Sick leave rates increased above the 3% target rate in most areas which is reflective of seasonal illnesses
- The Radiology Department is identifying some lower value imaging investigations for the DHB to consider due to the steadily rising increases in demand and capacity constraints in reporting times
- A CT autopsy service is being introduced in collaboration with the Pathology and Maori Health Services to enable swifter and non-invasive investigation into the causes of death where appropriate
- Due to an injury one of the two Anatomical Pathologists is unable to perform coronial autopsies. It is possible that some autopsies will be performed in Auckland over the upcoming months
- An increase in after-hours radiologists means rostering can allow for more hours over a 24 hour period to be covered meaning a reduction in outsourcing costs
- It is noted that those mothers who gave birth in Auckland and were then admitted into Northland DHB's maternity care were not funded under IDFs between hospitals
- The lactation team based at Te Puawai Ora are increasing their clinics to help better support breastfeeding mothers in the community
- Recruiting into roles within Community Mental Health continues to be an issue but a strategy has been implemented for Northland DHB to help fill these vacancies. Recruiting challenges are also seen in other DHBs

### **3.2 Financial Report**

- The financial result for August was an operating deficit of \$957k against a budgeted deficit of \$579k
- This result is in part an indication of the increased acute activity

**5. NEXT MEETING DETAILS**

The next meeting will be held at 9.00am, Monday 13 November 2017, in the Tangihua Meeting Room, Tohora House

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.12pm.

**Confirmed that these minutes constitute a true and correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.**

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**CHAIR**

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**DATE**