

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

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**HELD ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2019  
AT KAITAIA HOSPITAL**

**COMMENCING AT 9.00 AM**

**PRESENT**

John Bain (Chair)  
Sally Macauley            Denise Jensen  
Debbie Evans            Sue Brown  
Gary Payinda            Libby Jones (from 09:12)

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Nick Chamberlain, Paul Welford, Meng Cheong, Ian McKenzie, Mike Roberts, Sheryll Beveridge, Dee Telfer, Kathryn Leydon, Sarah Fox (minutes),

Board Member - Craig Brown

**APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Noted.

**1.0 COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**1.1 Confirmation of Minutes 11 March 2019**

It was moved that the minutes of the meeting held on 11 March 2019 be approved  
MOVED Sally Macauley    SECONDED Sue Brown    CARRIED

**1.2 Matters/Actions Arising**

**1.2.1 Interventions to support renal in-home dialysis**

- A paper will be prepared for the July meeting.

**1.2.2 Vacancy data**

- Preparation of data for inclusion in the Operational Report is progressing.

**1.2.3 Acute hospital readmission rates**

- The briefing paper was noted.

**1.2.4 Emergency Department waiting times**

- The information was noted.

**1.2.5 District Hospital after-hours GP services**

- The briefing paper was noted.

### **1.2.6 Dispensing medications on hospital discharge**

- The comments in the papers were noted and discussed. It is expected that a paper will be submitted to the July meeting.

### **1.2.7 Community maternity services**

- The commentary in the Operational Report was noted.
- Feedback was given on the possible expectations of the community following the consultation sessions.

## **2.0 CHAIR'S REPORT**

- Improvements will be made to the HAC meeting and reporting format in order to use the time effectively. Committee members are encouraged to make suggestions and give feedback.
- Recent experiences in relation to patient care and health and safety discussions have highlighted the need for investment in facilities improvement.

## **3.0 SYSTEM PERFORMANCE**

### **3.1 Operational Report**

- Work has begun on making changes to the content and format of the Operational Report. Input will be sought from HAC members and contributors to improve the value of the report over the coming months.
- The delay in agreeing elective targets was largely due to a change in policy. Options are being pursued to increase activity to minimise the lower-than-planned performance, due to strikes and acute activity.
- The RDA has withdrawn the strike action notice for 15-18 April but has issued a new strike notice for five days during the week of 29 April 2019. This will have a significant impact on staff.
- The options for the relocation of community mental health services to Manaia House were outlined.
- There was discussion on the consistency of threshold for surgery across specialities and only listing patients for surgery if they can be operated on within four months. A trial is underway to simplify the existing review system for patients to be re-evaluated against the threshold if their condition deteriorates.
- As part of the concerted effort to reduce locum costs the Communications Team has created a recruitment video with the aim of attracting permanent medical staff to the district hospitals.
- Learnings from the fall in Ambulatory Sensitive Hospitalisations will be shared across the organisation.
- A recent review of the nursing bureau, now incorporated in the Integrated Operations Centre, has led to a wider evaluation of the model of nursing workforce staffing.
- A review of the managerial structure of the Chief Operating Officer portfolio (provider arm services, excluding Mental Health) has commenced. Key aims are clinical coherence and workload balance.
- Progress on the Stewardship initiative, led by the COO and CMO, will be reported at future HAC meetings.

- Discussion around the impact of strike action on patient health and the contribution it has to the deterioration of patient symptoms. Cancer and Blood Services patients were mentioned in particular; the DHB is only able to request cover for life-preserving services which does not cover this group of patients.
- An incorrect date was noted in the papers for the Maternity New Build.
- The reporting of the Oral Health figures will be included in the improvement process in order to provide more meaningful and comparable information.
- The Committee was pleased to see a continuing increase in food being locally sourced. **Information on where food waste goes will be included in next month's papers.**
- There was discussion on the social services and support often required by Mental Health patients alongside their clinical needs. **There will be a presentation on the changing face of NDHB mental health at a future meeting.**
- The early childhood centre tooth brushing programme will be piloted with six centres initially.

#### 4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

##### 4.1 Northland DHB/Auckland University Research Projects – Dr Joel Pirini, Rural Medicine Specialist

Dr Joel Pirini gave a presentation on the Waharoa ki te Toi Health Research Centre which is a partnership between the Moko Foundation charitable trust and the Maurice Wilkins Centre at the University of Auckland. The centre is currently involved in two major studies; Fructose in Schools, and Genetics of Metabolic Health in Māori and Pacific populations. The presentation, which includes a video of children involved in the Fructose in Schools study, will be sent to Board members

##### 4.2 Kaitaia Hospital Update – Neta Smith, Operations Manager

Neta Smith gave an update on Kaitaia hospital services.

#### 5.0 NEXT MEETING DETAILS

The next meeting will be held at 9.00am on Monday 27 May 2019 at Dargaville Hospital

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:49am

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CHAIR

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DATE