

**Northland District Health Board  
HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HAC)  
Monday 27 May 2019, 9.00- 10.30  
Dargaville Hospital**

**MINUTES**

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**Present**

John Bain (Chair)	Gary Payinda	Debbie Evans
Sally Macauley	Sue Brown	Libby Jones

**In Attendance**

Nick Chamberlain	Meng Cheong	Dee Telfer	
Paul Welford	Mike Roberts	Kathryn Leydon	Sarah Fox (minutes)

Board Member - Craig Brown

**Apologies**

Denise Jensen

**1.0 General Business**

**1.1** A presentation was given by Karen Katipa and Andrew Mardon on Dargaville Hospital Service Initiatives including:

- Population data
- What is working well
- Inpatient and outpatient activity and specialist clinics
- Repatriation of Kaipara residents
- Current initiatives and future opportunities
- Patient feedback and staff perspectives

It was agreed to report on actions to increase both inpatient and outpatient utilisation at future meetings.

**2.0 Committee Minutes**

**2.1 Confirmation of Minutes 15 April 2019**

It was moved that the minutes of the meeting held on 15 April 2019 be approved.  
MOVED Sally Macauley SECONDED Debbie Evans CARRIED

**2.2 Matters/Actions Arising**

**2.2.1 Single service approach to youth school-based health services**

- Update noted. Action closed.

**2.2.2 Food waste**

- Update noted. Action closed.

**2.2.3 Recruitment data**

- Update noted. Action closed noting: a) the report shows time from vacancy approval; b) actively delaying vacancy approval is a legitimate tactic for controlling spend in non-essential services; c) other streams of work were in parallel such as controlling locum spend reported at the Finance Risk and Assurance Committee (FRAC).

### 3.0 Chair's Report

The Chair reported that he had recently witnessed excellent treatment provided to a patient at Whangarei Hospital and commended staff. Agreed that the Board needed to continue its strong support for the campaign for a new hospital.

### 4.0 System Performance

#### 4.1 Operational Report

The Chief Operating Officer highlighted the following points:

- In continuing to improve reporting to HAC, some of the less meaningful trending items have been removed. Members' feedback continued to be welcomed.
- In response to a question at the previous HAC meeting on falling ASH rates in adults, it was found that there were many interventions which might have had an impact. It was most likely the result of many incremental changes. The most significant likely being: a) the increased admission threshold created through demand rising faster than capacity and b) St John initiatives to treat in the community rather than bring patients to ED. The re-launch of Primary Options Acute Demand Management Service (POADMS) was hoped to contribute further.
- The organisation was on track for agreed deficit this year but next year would be far more challenging. The organisation is tightening up on applying agreed criteria to travel and training requests and would be improving transparency and tracking of decisions to approve or decline.
- Stewardship Committee meetings had commenced. As previously reported, the aim of the committee is to provide recommendations on how to make best use of all NDHB's available resources so as to minimise harm and maximise total health gain. Progress would be reported at future HAC meetings.
- The Executive Leadership Team recently discussed staffing business cases from ED, Medicine and Podiatry.

There was discussion on the following items:

- Strikes, acute demand, sickness and other factors all had an effect on ability to meet targets during the March reporting month.
- The acting Chief of Nursing and Midwifery was preparing a paper on Nurse Practitioners.
- The challenges faced by services, such as orthopaedics, in determining which patients to put forward for surgery is one of the areas being addressed by Stewardship Committee.

### 5.0 Next Meeting Details

The next meeting would be held at 9.00am on Monday 15 July 2019, Whangarei Hospital

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.25am.

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CHAIR

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DATE