

Minutes for the NSW Health Pathology Board
27th November 2014
Fifteenth Meeting
Boardroom, Level 7, 67 Albert Ave, Chatswood



Health
Pathology

Present:

Dr Steve Flecknoe-Brown, Dr Bruce Sanderson, Professor Roger Wilson, Professor Graeme Stewart, Mr Murray Austin, Bruce Sanderson (Teleconference) and Dr Stephen Braye (Videoconference).

Apologies:

Associate Professor Peter Stewart, Ms Kay Hyman and Dr Kerry Chant.

In Attendance:

Ms Tracey McCosker, Dr Gus Koerbin and Vanessa Janissen (Videoconference).

Secretariat:

Ms Tanya Dunn

Order of Business: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14

BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies were received from Associate Professor Peter Stewart, Ms Kay Hyman and Dr Kerry Chant

The Chair, Dr Steve Flecknoe-Brown opened the meeting at 2:06pm and welcomed those present. Tanya Dunn recorded the minutes. A quorum of Board members was present and the meeting proceeded with business.

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no new declarations of Conflict of Interest disclosed.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Board members APPROVED the draft Board meeting minutes of 25th September 2014.

4. Business Arising from Previous Meetings

The Action List was reviewed as part of the agenda.

5. Chief Executive Report

Paper Attached:

Tracey McCosker provided an update on NSW Health Pathology.

The Board ACCEPTED the Chief Executive Report.

Standing Committee Reports

6. Finance and Performance

Paper Attached:

Murray Austin provided an update on the Finance and Performance Committee.

The Board APPROVED the Finance and Performance Committee report.

ACTION: Vanessa Janissen to report back to the NSW Health Pathology Board the final report regarding unpacked pathology costs in July 2015.

7. Clinical Council

Roger Wilson provided a verbal update on the Clinical Council Committee.

The Board ACCEPTED the verbal Clinical Council Committee report.

ACTION: Roger Wilson to review and revise the current NSW Health Pathology Clinical Council membership in February 2015.

General Business

8. Approval of final year – end Accounts

Thomas Hoppe provided an update on the approval of final year-end accounts and to inform the Board that the Auditors have completed their review of the Annual Financial Statements for 2013/14. The Auditors are satisfied that they are materially correct with no recommended amendments.

The Board acknowledged and reviewed the Audit Office Report.

The Board APPROVED the Final Year end accounts with commendation.

9. Update on Board Positions

Steve Flecknoe-Brown provided an update on the Board positions for NSW Health Pathology, noting that a brief has been submitted to Ms. Deborah Oong; currently awaiting a response from Dr Mary Foley, Secretary of the Ministry. Announcement of new appointments will be made in due course.

10. Northern Beaches Decision

Tracey McCosker provided an update on the Northern Beaches decision; noting that the NSW Government has announced Healthscope as the successful tenderer for the Northern Beaches Hospital development.

Tracey McCosker advised that she has requested a meeting with Health Infrastructure to discuss any future tender processes for similar projects.

The NSW Health Pathology Board recorded a “Note of Concern” around the ability of Healthscope to deliver a comprehensive pathology service at the Northern Beaches facility for public patients and the community.

NSW Health Pathology to continue to meet with the Ministry of Health and Health Infrastructure to discuss the implications of this decision; and to seek further details regarding the proposed contract and the responsibility to patients and the community; and report back to the NSW Health Pathology Board as required.

ACTION: The NSW Health Pathology Board records a “Note of Concern” around the ability of Health Scope to deliver a comprehensive pathology service at the Northern Beaches facility for public patients and the community.

ACTION: NSW Health Pathology Executive staff to meet with the Ministry of Health and Health Infrastructure to discuss the implications of this decision, to seek further details regarding the proposed contract and the responsibility to patients and the community and to report back to the NSW Health Pathology Board as required.

11. Update on Quad State Meeting

Tracey McCosker provided an update on the recent Quad State Meeting held in Perth, Western Australia. In attendance were Executive members of the public pathology services in Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland and New South Wales. Also in attendance were representatives from Keele University Benchmarking Service and Beeston Consulting to present on benchmarking in pathology in the UK.

Various topics were discussed over the two-day meeting. Working parties have been formed to work collaboratively in the following areas; benchmarking, sendaways, non-compensable tests and procurement.

NSW will host the 2015 Quad State Meeting, 11-13th November. NSW Health Pathology Board Members are invited to attend an evening dinner scheduled for the 11th November, 2015. Further details to be made available in the near future.

12. Yearly Wrap Up – Achievements in 2 Years of Operation

Tracey McCosker presented an update on the achievements of the last two years of operation for NSW Health Pathology and discussion ensued. The NSW Health Pathology Value Proposition to be discussed at the February 2015 Board meeting.

ACTION: NSW Health Pathology Value Proposition discussion to occur at the upcoming February 2015 Board meeting.

13. Ebola Update

Professor Roger Wilson provided an update to the Board on the Ebola Virus. Professor Graeme Stewart thanked Professor Wilson for a comprehensive overview and expressed the confidence of the clinical community in NSW Health Pathology.

14. 2015 Meeting Dates

Tracey McCosker made reference to the circulated brief regarding the proposed 2015 Board meeting dates and content themes aligning with the priority focus areas in the NSW Health Pathology Strategic Plan. Board Members are asked to review and give consideration to the proposed dates and content themes and forward any concerns to Tanya Dunn. Steve Flecknoe Brown will advise details of the regional Board meeting in the near future.

ACTION: Board Members are asked to review and give consideration to the proposed dates and content themes and forward any concerns to Tanya Dunn. Steve Flecknoe Brown will advise details of the regional Board meeting in the near future.

New Business

15. Items without Notice

A brief discussion regarding the NSW Health Pathology Customer Charter to be discussed at the February 2015 Board meeting; clarification regarding facilities owned by Local Health Districts, not NSW Health Pathology, requiring refurbishment.

Dr Steve Flecknoe Brown thanked Dr Stephen Braye and Associate Professor Peter Stewart for their service, leadership and guidance to the NSW Health Pathology Board.

Committee Minutes/Report for Information

- 1. Finance and Performance Committee**
- 2. Work Health and Safety Quarterly Reports**
- 3. NSW Health Pathology Operational Plan 14/15 – July – September**
- 4. Internal and External Communication**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was closed at 4.40pm