

SHI Board Communiqué – February 2024

The SHI Board met on 20th of February 2024 and discussed the following matters:

Board Chair – topics for discussion

- The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed the new registrar observer to the Board, Dr Christopher Chew.
- The Chair welcomed all members to the first Board meeting of the 2024 year.

Practice Modernisation Project

- The Board received a presentation from Mr James Foxall and Mr Glen Higginbotham of Evolve Health Digital, on their review of SHI clinical services operations, patient journeys, and patient engagement. The Evolve Insights Report and Patient Journey Maps, for surgery and clinics, were tabled and noted.
- Board members discussed the report and its recommendations and noted the efficiency dividends to be gained by implementing many of the report's recommendations.
- Effective change management and consultation with visiting medical officers were recognised as critical considerations.
- The Board discussed the report's recommendations regarding the practice management system, noting this was a foundation issue for many of the report's other recommendations.
- The Chair thanked James and Glen for their presentation and noted that proposals arising from the report would come to the Board for consideration in due course.

Sub-committee reports – Finance, Audit and Risk Management committee

- The Chair of the FARM committee, Mr Jim Power, briefed the Board on YTD performance compared to budget.
- The Board was pleased to note the improvement in operating cashflow, and the ongoing efforts to manage expenditure across the Institute.

Operational updates

- The Board received a progress report on the Financial Sustainability Plan, and reaffirmed the plan would continue to serve as the primary strategic framework for the Institute at this time. The Board noted ongoing priorities and activities to improve financial performance.
- The CEO updated the Board on the recent regulatory inspection from the Department of Health (Victoria) and subsequent action plans, noting that a number of updates to clinical policies and processes would be progressed through the Clinical Governance Committee.
- The Board noted that a refresh of the Institute's Strategic Plan will be undertaken once the Board was satisfied the objectives of the Financial Sustainability Plan had been achieved.

Approved by Dr Edward Upjohn, Chair of the SHI Board