

# Executive Message

## Metro North Health



### Chief Executive Adj. Prof. Jackie Hanson

Dear colleagues,

It is with sadness that I advise that our Chief Finance and Corporate Officer, Alister Whitta, will be departing Metro North Health on 6 February 2025. Alister has recently accepted an executive role in the higher education sector.

Alister joined Metro North as the Chief Finance and Corporate Officer in November 2021.

Alister has been instrumental in Metro North achieving a positive budget outcome for the last three financial years. This was achieved through his strong partnerships with Directorate and Divisional Executives and Stream Leads and successful negotiation with the Department of Health Funding and Purchasing team. He has also successfully led his team in achieving unqualified financial statements over his years of service.

Alister has also driven a number of key business improvements, including the establishment of the Finance Transformation Program to improve culture, capability and business processes. Other key achievements include implementing an upgraded corporate records management system, creating a staff awards program for Corporate Business Services (CBS) linked to our values, and the successful transition of the Sustainable Assets and Infrastructure Division into CBS.

I would like to sincerely thank Alister for his contribution and commitment to Metro North Health and for the support he has afforded me, executive colleagues, the Board and the broader staff cohort. I know you will join me in wishing him every success in his future endeavours.

An EOI will be released early in the new year to temporarily backfill while we permanently recruit to the role.

I would also like to thank Glynis Schultz, Executive Director, Community and Oral Health, who has been acting in the Chief Operating Officer role over the last couple of



weeks. From 1 January 2025, Chief Medical Officer Dr Liz Rushbrook will act as Chief Operating Officer until the longer-term EOI process is finalised. I hope to announce the successful applicant early in the new year.

## **Metro North Health Strategic Plan 2024-2028**

Earlier this year we started work on a refresh of the Metro North Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan is an important document that articulates our future direction and commitment to our community, our staff and partners.

As part of that refresh, we invite all Metro North Health staff to participate and help shape this important strategic document.

A copy of the draft plan is [available here](#).

I encourage everyone to read the draft and take part in [this short survey](#), which will be available until the end of February.

Throughout January and February, there will also be a series of pop-up consultation sessions at Metro North hospitals and facilities where staff can ask questions and provide feedback on the draft plan. More information about those dates and locations will be available in the new year.

## **Shout out**

This week's shout out is to the Open Dementia Service, based at the Caboolture campus.

The Open Dementia Service was developed to fill a gap in care for patients with Dementia and Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (BPSD) who are at or approaching crisis point.

The team works collaboratively with patients, their families, carers, and care facilities to prevent hospital admissions from becoming necessary for dementia patients. Prevention of admission means better patient outcomes and less risk of dementia patients becoming long-stay patients in our facilities.

The Open Dementia Service is another example of how we provide better care when we apply cultural understanding, kindness, and empathy.

I hope everyone enjoyed a safe and peaceful Christmas and some time with family and loved ones. Thank you again to all those staff who shared Christmas Day with our patients and consumers.

As we prepare to welcome the new year, it's a good time to reflect on all we have achieved together in 2024 with our [Year in Review](#) and [highlight video](#).

Wishing you all a very happy new year.

Kind regards,  
Jackie

**Metro North Health**   



We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action  
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High performance | Teamwork

Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



**Queensland  
Government**

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