



Dear colleagues,

It was excellent to meet some newly appointed members of the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Staff Council while the Board was at RBWH for our June meeting. The Council plays such an important role for one of the biggest hospitals in the country. I am impressed by the ideas, energy and commitment to innovation from Council members, and their focus on supporting staff wellbeing.

I have been reminded recently of the important work our clinicians do in assessing new treatments and surgical technologies and translating evidence into practice to ensure patients are getting the best possible care. This month I've had the opportunity to visit the RBWH urology team, who led the country in bringing groundbreaking prostate cancer NanoKnife treatment to a public hospital.

This innovative and patient-first approach was also evident at the recent celebrations of the [30th anniversary of Genetics Health Queensland](#). One of the incredibly valuable things the GHQ team offers patients is answers to seemingly unanswerable questions when they can provide a diagnosis for a rare disease.

We know patients look to clinicians for advice and expect an evidence-based assessment of the probability of different outcomes on which to make informed and personal decisions. Both the above examples demonstrate Metro North's evidence-based practices and giving the patients' voice the right prominence. These approaches continue to put Metro North Health and Queensland Health at the forefront to drive improvements in healthcare.

New vision for Metro North Health

After extensive consultation with staff and consumers, the Board approved the refreshed Metro North Strategic Plan 2024-2028 (2025 refresh) on Tuesday. The plan will be on our website from 30 June, taking effect from 1 July 2025.

Our new Metro North vision encapsulates our commitment to continually improving our

services as we deliver high quality compassionate care:

Creating healthier futures together—where innovation and research meets compassionate care and community voices shape our services.

As a Board we will be working with the Chief Executive and senior leaders to closely monitor achievement of the Strategic Plan. Our targets for 2026 focus on the health and safety of patients, supporting quality and innovation, and supporting the safety and wellbeing of our workforce. A key driver of innovation and quality improvement is the work of the Helix Hub and Healthcare Excellence and Improvement, which was in the spotlight during their recent showcase.

Queensland State Budget

The Queensland State Budget 2025-26 announced this week, brings optimism with a record \$33.1 billion investment in health across Queensland centred on reducing ambulance ramping, improving services, recruiting more health workers, and delivering infrastructure growth through the *Hospital Rescue Plan*. Over the past few weeks, we have heard from our clinical directorate executives about the efforts underway across all clinical areas to significantly improve patient flow.

Health Equity Strategy 2025-2028

Our commitment to health equity is strengthened through the refreshed Strategic Plan and the Board proudly approved the new Metro North Health Equity Strategy 2025-2028 this week. The new strategy reinforces our commitment to listening to and learning from the community we serve. I look forward to joining Elders, community and staff on 1 July to mark this very important day for our health service.



Board member profile – Hon. Jane Prentice

Each month I will introduce you to a Board member and talk about the work of our committees. This week I spoke to Hon Jane Prentice, our Board representative on the RBWH Foundation Board.

Jane served as a member of the House of Representatives from 2010 to 2019, representing the Division of Ryan in Queensland. In 2016 she was appointed as the Assistant Minister for Social Services with specific responsibility for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Prior to her election to Federal Parliament, Jane served for 10 years as a Councillor for the

Brisbane City Council ward of Walter Taylor. During this time she was chair the City's Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Assets Review and Chair of Public and Active Transport and Economic Development for Brisbane City Council. Jane is also President of Tennis Queensland and Scouts Queensland and is passionate about using the skills gleaned from years in private enterprise and her extensive political network to support her many voluntary roles including the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation, Zonta International and Friends of BUSHkids. Before entering public life, Jane owned and managed a successful convention and event management firm and was responsible for organising many of Queensland's largest events.

Jane is delighted to be part of the RBWH Foundation team which is determined to raise money to provide the best possible health care for all Queenslanders through innovation and leading research.

(Jane pictured with Dr Joel Dulhunty at the Raise it for Redcliffe Hospital Giving Day)

RBWH Foundation is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and the enormous success of their recent Giving Day was evidence of the strong connection our community has with their work and their support for our staff and patients.

Regards,
Bernard

Metro North Health



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