

MEDIA RELEASE



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WA Primary Health Alliance welcomes two new Board members

WA Primary Health Alliance (WAPHA) has appointed two new Board members, Ms Liza Houghton and Mr Brian Roche, further strengthening the organisation's depth of expertise across public policy, clinical governance and community focused care.

WAPHA CEO, Bernadette Kenny, said the appointments reflect WAPHA's continued focus on strong governance and leadership to enable better health outcomes for Western Australians – particularly those most at risk of poor health.

"Both new directors bring extensive experience working across complex systems and with people facing the greatest health challenges."

"Liza's deep understanding of culturally responsive health care and system level reform will be invaluable to WAPHA as we continue to work in partnership with communities and the primary health care sector."

"Brian's breadth of governance and public policy experience strengthens the Board's capability to provide robust oversight and strategic direction in a complex and evolving health environment."

"These appointments reinforce WAPHA's commitment to contemporary governance and strengthening the links between primary health care and the wider health system."

With over 30 years' experience in clinical, executive, and advisory roles, Liza specialises in strategic management, operational improvement, and clinical governance across complex health systems.

"Having worked across most parts of the Australian health system, I place significant value on primary health care as an access point for improving the health and wellbeing of people from communities that experience limited access and options."

"I believe in focusing on the experience of community members, and continually improving the system through integration, partnerships and collaboration. Working together, we can improve health care for all," said Liza.

With extensive experience as a Non-Executive Director and Chair across State and National boards, Brian's executive career includes senior leadership roles with a strong focus on governance, fiduciary responsibility, investment management, and public policy.

"My Dad was a nurse and encouraged my brother, sisters and I to champion the needs of vulnerable people."

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“As Public Trustee I play an important role in the community, protecting the human rights of adults who have a profound decision-making disability. Their disability may be due to dementia, mental illness or substance abuse. Many of my clients are homeless.”

“I am delighted to join an organisation that is committed to strengthening primary health care, particularly increasing access to care for those living in rural and remote communities and improving health outcomes for Aboriginal people.”

“I look forward to working with the Board, CEO Bernadette Kenny, and the staff at WAPHA to deliver against our strategic priorities. I believe that well-informed decision-making can significantly improve the health and wellbeing of those who need it most.”

Ms Liza Houghton and Mr Brian Roche joined the Board of WA Primary Health Alliance with effect 3 December 2025.

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About Us: WA Primary Health Alliance shapes, strengthens and sustains primary health care through partnerships and strategies that improve people’s access and health outcomes. As the operator of WA’s three Primary Health Networks – part of the Australian Government national PHN program – we help communities and people most at risk of poor health to get better access to care closer to home. We achieve this by supporting general practice to deliver the highest quality patient care, funding local primary health care services based on community needs and connecting local services to simplify the health care system. Along with our strong partnerships, our statewide structure allows us to deliver better health, together for the benefit of the WA community. For more information, visit www.wapha.org.au