Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, 1 October 2026

Queensland Children's Hospital

The Children's Health Queensland Board oversees the organisation's performance, safety and long-term planning to support the delivery of high-quality healthcare services for children, young people and families across Queensland

The Board met in October at the Queensland Children's Hospital. The meeting was chaired by Heather Watson and commenced with an Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners.

Key topics discussed

Strengthening philanthropy across Queensland

The Board received an update from the Children's Hospital Foundation on its work to grow community and philanthropic support for children's health across Queensland. Discussion focused on building stronger relationships with regional communities, Hospital and Health Services and Hospital Foundations, and helping local communities grow their fundraising capability. The Board was interested in how the impact of this work can be measured and how it could be expanded and sustained over the long term.

Looking ahead for children's healthcare across Queensland

The Board discussed how Children's Health Queensland can continue working with other Hospital and Health Services across Queensland to strengthen healthcare for children and young people, including through supporting local healthcare teams and responding to changing community needs.

Improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people

The Board received an update from the Chief First Nations Health Office on national and state reforms designed to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Board discussed opportunities to strengthen culturally safe healthcare, support health equity and continue working in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities. The Board acknowledged the importance of ensuring the voices and needs of children and young people continue to be reflected in future planning and investment decisions.

Using innovation to improve care

The Board received an update on an initiative using artificial intelligence (AI) to support clinicians with administrative tasks. Early results suggest the initiative is making a positive difference for both families and staff, helping reduce time spent on paperwork, improve the patient experience and support staff wellbeing.

The Board also discussed Children's Health Queensland's ongoing work to strengthen cyber security and protect the information and systems that support patient care.

Planning for the future

The Board approved the Children's Health Queensland 2026-27 Budget as well as infrastructure and equipment initiatives at the Queensland Children's Hospital facilities.

Listening and learning

The Board and Executive reflected on a recent visit with the Respiratory and Sleep Medicine service. Hearing directly from staff helps Board members better understand the experiences of teams across Children's Health Queensland and the important work they do to support children, young people and families every day.

Continuing to focus on what matters most

The Board also received its regular updates on patient safety, quality of care, service performance and organisational priorities. These updates help ensure Children's Health Queensland continues to provide safe, high-quality care for children, young people and families.

Looking ahead, the Board will continue to support innovation, collaboration and ongoing improvements in healthcare for children and young people across Queensland.

Heather Watson
Chair
Children's Health Queensland Board



This summary of Board discussion and decisions made does not form or represent any part of the minutes of the meeting.