

Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network Board Charter

Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network (Justice Health NSW) is a statutory health corporation (under the Health Services Act, NSW, 1997) that provides healthcare across secure inpatient, custodial, court and community settings.

Members are appointed, for fixed terms, by the Minister for Health. The Board of Justice Health NSW provides governance oversight for the Network. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of Justice Health NSW through overseeing the development of a long term vision for Justice Health NSW and its ten year strategic plan in collaboration with the Chief Executive, with annual updates and reviews of the plan.

The Board is also responsible for horizon scanning for issues relevant to Justice Health NSW. The Board is not involved in day to day operational management, but is charged with overseeing Justice Health NSW's performance. Board members are appointed as a result of their skills and experience and have the appropriate mix of skills to provide guidance to Justice Health NSW.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair

- Provide leadership to the Board and ensure its cohesiveness and effective operation.
- Provide a link between the Board and Justice Health NSW management and the Board and the Minister.
- Sign the Justice Health NSW annual Service Agreement with the Ministry of Health on behalf of the Board.
- Evaluate Board member performance.
- Ensure overall Board performance is evaluated regularly.
- Undertake an annual review of the performance of the Chief Executive and negotiate a Performance Agreement each year.
- Represent the Board on external entities.
- Act as an official spokesperson.

Board Members

- Carry out their roles and responsibilities in the best interests of Justice Health NSW and the community and maintain a duty of care and diligence in the public interest and the interests of Justice Health NSW's staff and those in its care.
- Maintain knowledge and awareness of the paramount role and responsibilities of Justice Health NSW.
- Prepare adequately for and attend Board meetings as required.
- Attend educational programs provided by the Justice Health NSW and maintain continuing knowledge.
- Participate effectively in meetings of the Board.
- Comply with all relevant laws and policy directives.
- Participate, if invited, in committees and support the Board's operations
- When acting in good faith and in accordance with their statutory duties, Board members are provided with indemnity for their actions. This indemnity does not extend to the discharge of responsibilities under the New South Wales Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Board Meetings

- The Board will meet regularly, with at least six ordinary meetings annually, including an annual public meeting.
- Board members are encouraged to nominate items for inclusion on the Board agenda. Agenda items should be accompanied by papers to provide the information necessary to support informed decision making by the Board.
- The Board will invite Justice Health NSW and other personnel to Board meetings to provide information and assist in decision making.
- Board papers are to be made available in advance of each meeting (at least seven calendar days) and Board minutes are required to be published for public information.
- The Board is responsible for the approval and monitoring of the Justice Health NSW's Strategic Plan.

