

# South Western Sydney Local Health District - Our Board Communique

The SWSLHD Board regularly provides updates on their role and activities, sharing with staff their insights and progress on the strategic directions and governance of the District.

As a part of their work, the Board has formed focused Committees to provide specialist advice, support and oversight on key areas, ensuring the District's activities and operations are safe, high-quality, future focused and that resources are directed appropriately in line with our Strategic Plan.

## SWSLHD's Board Committees:

- Health Care Quality & Safety
- Audit & Risk
- Finance & Assets
- Aboriginal Health
- Research & Teaching

This edition focuses on the Audit & Risk Committee. You can find out more about the Board and its committees on our website : [www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/board.html](http://www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/board.html)

## Introducing the Audit & Risk Committee



Audit & Risk Committee Chair,  
Jann Gardner

Establishing and maintaining effective systems and processes supports our health professionals to deliver high-quality care and outcomes for the community and ensures appropriate use of our resources.

The Audit and Risk Committee comprises three independent members as well as one Board Member, and acts as a safeguard for the District, providing guidance to the Chief Executive and Internal Audit team.

The Committee oversees and monitors governance, risk and control issues affecting operations across the District.

The Committee also provides strategic direction and accountability of the Internal Audit function.

## How the Audit & Risk Committee supports your work



### Governance and risk management

The Audit & Risk Committee ensures appropriate control and risk management frameworks are in place to support the Board and the Executive Leadership Team to regularly and effectively identify, manage and monitor risk.

Where there are areas for improvement identified, the Committee provides specialist advice to the Chief Executive.

Risks are outlined in the Strategic and Enterprise Risk Registers, which the Committee reviews quarterly. The Audit and Risk Committee then reports to the Board on these areas.



### Financial reporting

Financial reporting allows us to review and assess how resources are allocated across the District, and identify any areas requiring further review.

The Committee reviews the District's Financial Statements to ensure compliance with relevant legislation, and that the statements accurately and fairly represent the District's activities for the period stated.



### What happens when things go wrong?

When internal audits reveal areas where the District is non-compliant, the Committee may query the situation and what actions are being undertaken to resolve the matter. They may provide guidance to the Chief Executive and Internal Audit team on potential solutions, and request follow-up audits or progress reports be implemented.

The Committee may also report issues directly to the Board or Chief Executive if they deem a matter important enough to do so.

This protects our District, our staff, our resources and our patients.

Find out more about SWSLHD Board at [www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/board.html](http://www.swslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/board.html)