

# Board Pack

Royal Hospital for Women  
Foundation  
Non-Executive Director

April 2024

**PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**



## Context

The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation is the registered charity for The Royal Hospital for Women, the only dedicated women's hospital in NSW.

The Royal (located in Randwick alongside Sydney Children's Hospital and Prince of Wales) provides exceptional, accessible healthcare to women and newborns, and provides personalised care that supports the family and our communities.

The Royal is an internationally renowned leader in women's and newborn health. Speciality areas include genetics, fertility and IVF, neonatology, gynaecology, menopause, breast cancer, endometriosis, oncology, adolescent gynaecology, maternity and birth, perinatal mental health, maternal foetal medicine.

The Foundation's purpose is to transform the lifelong health of women and newborns. We do this by raising and providing funds that drive innovation, medical advancements and the best care possible.



# Royal Hospital for Women Foundation - Context

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## The challenge

- The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation is in a growth phase with a new strategic plan set for 2024-2026.
- The Foundation has an ambition to grow its brand, reach and impact in women's health beyond the hospital walls and become a nationwide not-for-profit leader in women's health. The Foundation exists in a competitive health charity market space and requires brand and revenue growth to realise its goals to drive meaningful change for women, newborns and families.

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## The response

- Strategic priority of social impact driven programs and research that have a) ability to raise significant revenue and b) demonstrate our impact in women's health Australia-wide.
- Grow network and philanthropic reach through expansion of RHWF Board. Appointment of new NED's that expands expertise depth and move towards establishing Fundraising Committee to sustainably grow.
- Strategic plan supports shift to philanthropy from reliance on fundraising for core revenue.

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## Beliefs and approach

- In a world where women's health has been systematically less funded, less researched, and ultimately, less understood –The Royal Hospital for Women dares to make it better for women.
- The Foundation empowers the hospital to continue its enduring commitment to transforming the lifelong health of women and newborns. Together, we continue to envision and enact a better standard of care for the courageous women who uphold our families, champion our communities, and drive our economy.

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## Mission

- Our purpose is to transform the lifelong health of women and newborns. We do this by raising and providing funds to The Royal Hospital for Women to drive innovation, medical advancements, and the best care possible.

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## Values

- Humanity | Innovation | Impact



## Current Board

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Amanda Kenny – Chair

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/amanda-kenny-536b6b14/>

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Harvey Carter - Vice Chair (Risk + Audit)

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/harvey-carter-702a5938/>

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Alex Vynokur

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/vynokur/>

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Professor Alec Welsh

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alec-welsh-46953892/>

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Donna Garland

Royal Hospital for Women General Manager (Head of Hospital)

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Demetria Chelepy

Company Secretary

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/demetria-chelepy/>

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# Royal Hospital for Women Foundation - GM

## Elise Jennings

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- Elise has been with the Foundation for 15+ years and took on the Head of Organisation, General Manager position in August 2021.
- With a commercial marketing background and tertiary studies in health science, Elise is passionate about women's health and how women access and engage in health information and services to enhance their wellbeing.
- Elise leads a team of 8 Foundation staff and works closely with the Board, Hospital executive and senior clinicians, health district and government for the advocacy and advancement of The Royal Hospital for Women and women's health.
- The Foundation has been the catalyst for innovation under Elise's leadership in the last two years. This has included Australia's first uterine transplant (and birth), made possible through Foundation funding, Australia's first IVM (replacing IVF) birth through The Fertility & Research Centre, groundbreaking NICU research and new clinical models funded by the Foundation, and the first hospital in NSW to implement magseed technology for breast surgery (Foundation funded trial and service enhancement).
- Elise has also overseen significant growth in brand awareness for The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation which has included 60 Minutes exclusives, story coverage across Nine, Ten, Seven and ABC news and multiple masthead stories in print and digital media.
- The Foundation is positioned for growth with team structure aligned with strategy and recent projects including development of new brand value proposition and updates to digital engagement strategy through product and content.
- Elise is driven and excited by the opportunity to grow The Foundation's impact in women's health whilst continuing to support and fund The Royal as a beacon and outstanding public health service for women and families.



# Governance

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## Structure

The number of Directors may not be less than 6, or more than 12.

Trust Deed executed in 1994, Constitution (updated) adopted in 2015.

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## Composition

General Manager of The Royal Hospital for Women or a Local Health District must be appointed to the Board.

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## Tenure

Three-year term on appointment and ability to stand for re-election for a further two years

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## Board Meetings

Quarterly + AGM

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## Meeting Dates

March, June, September and November

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## Remuneration

Voluntary

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## Records

Digital





# The opportunity – The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation

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## The primary aims of this position:

The role of the Board is to collectively govern with other Directors to provide strategic guidance for The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation and the Trust and effective oversight of management, with particular reference to supporting, providing property and benefits and otherwise assisting the Royal Hospital for Women.

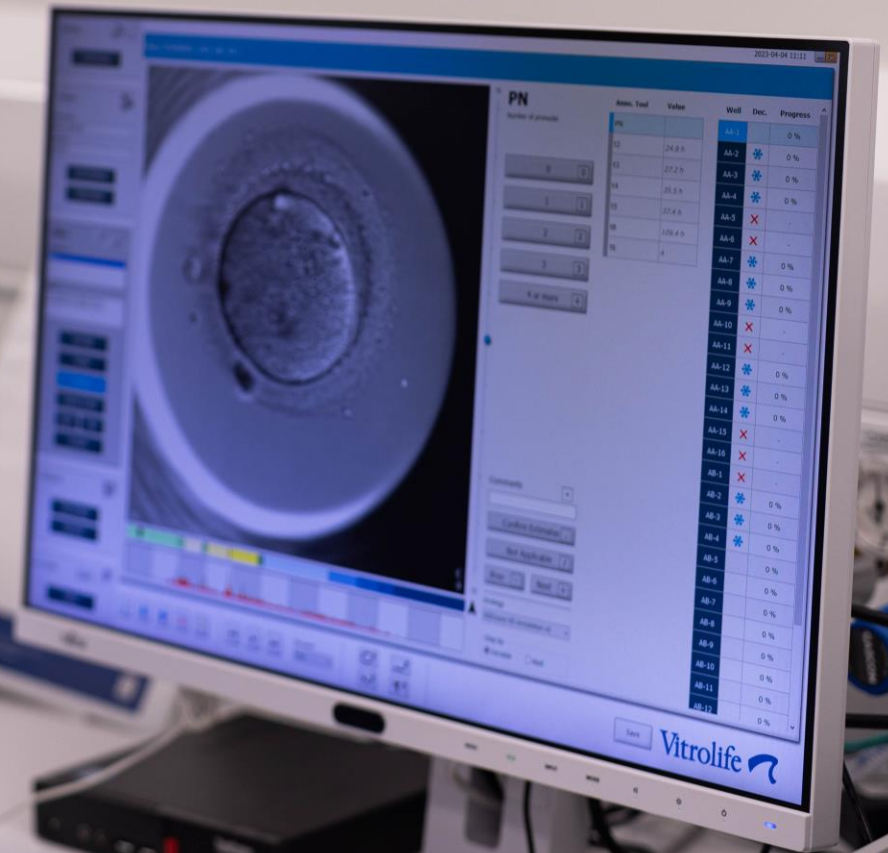
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## Duties and expectations of Directors:

The key responsibilities of the Board are :

- Approving the strategic direction of RHWF and the Trust and significant strategic initiatives.
- Approving RHWF's and the Trust's annual budget and financial statements and monitoring financial performance against approved budget.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of risk management by RHWF and the Trust.
- Selecting, appointing and terminating the external auditor.
- Approving the investment policy of RHWF and the Trust to ensure the prudent investment of financial assets of RHWF and the Trust.
- Considering and approving the RHWF Board Tenure Policy.
- Selecting, appointing and determining terms of appointment of the GM/CEO.
- Reviewing succession plans for the GM/CEO.







# Key selection criteria – The Royal Hospital for Women Foundation

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## Professional:

- Proven experience as an effective board member.
- Commitment to excellence in governance to ensure the Board continues to operate effectively and rigorously.
- Demonstrable experience in management and leadership roles that have engaged with business.
- Excellent communication skills and strategic approach, along with highly-developed relationship skills, able to manage a variety of stakeholder relationships.
- Proven experience in fundraising with the ability to identify and source income streams.
- Extensive networks within the Australian business community, and / or Government and able to influence a broad network of contacts.
- The ability to garner business, government and broader community support and networks, and work to promote the reputation of the Royal Hospital for Women Foundation.
- A genuine interest and passion for positively contributing to women's and newborn health.

## Personal:

- A well-known and well-respected person of significant standing in business and/or government
- Relevant experience which enables them to connect with the people and communities that the Foundation serves.
- The ability to provide wise, thoughtful counsel; to analyse and ask relevant questions at the strategic level.
- A person of the highest integrity and ethical standards who will actively uphold such standards when representing the Foundation.
- Demonstrates trust and commitment, respect and openness for the views of others and encouraging open discussions and commitment to enable the work of the Foundation.
- A person with available time, able to devote sufficient time and energy to discharge the role properly (i.e. attending meetings adequately prepared to make a useful and considered contribution and support a small management team).



## Further information

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### Website

[www.royalwomen.org.au](http://www.royalwomen.org.au)

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### Annual Report

Supplied with pack

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### Sector information

<https://peopleforpurpose.com.au/>

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### In the news

- UTx first announcement in [SMH](#)
- CAPA IVF on [Nine News](#)
- Heart for Her/Endometriosis breakthrough in [SMH](#)
- Heart for He/Endometriosis breakthrough [Nine News](#)
- UTx pregnancy announcement [60 Minutes](#)
- Calista's PGD story in the [Daily Telegraph](#)
- Olena's story [SMH](#)
- Charli cross [Today Show](#)
- NICU Miracles in [Sunday Telegraph](#)
- Birth of baby Henry on [Nine News](#) (the story ran nationally)
- Birth of baby Henry on [ABC News](#)
- Birth of baby Henry on SMH [online](#) and front cover of [print edition](#)
- UTx transplant recipient Prue Craven on [7:30 Report](#)
- NICU nurse Ezster on [A Current Affair](#)

