



Annual Report 2023

WALSH Trust Board Chair and Chief Executive

The last 12 months have seen a gradual, if sometimes stuttering sense of a “a kind of” normality returning to Aotearoa/New Zealand as the era of the COVID pandemic begins to fade into our history.

That said, the ripple effects of the pandemic are going to be felt for some considerable time to come; the social consequences, unrest and sense of uncertainty have had the most profound effect on our communities – in ways we are only just beginning to discover.

During the last 12 months, the concept of Te Whatu Ora has become a reality; most tangibly in our contractual relationships. The reform of the New Zealand health system is a major undertaking; an understatement if ever there was one! Our sole caveat is that both the needs and capacities of our communities are engaged with; reform of the health system cannot occur in isolation of the communities it serves.

In fact, engaging with, nurturing and building community capability is now the richest investment we can make in addressing poor mental health, and supporting wellbeing. We do now live in a world where “VUCA” appears more and more of a reality in describing a world that is **V**olatile, **U**ncertain, **C**omplex and **A**mbiguous.

This has certainly been a strong informant in discussions that contributed to the review and drafting of our updated Strategic Plan 2023-2026.

The Trust Board has continued to meet monthly, focussing on good governance through our revised strategic goals and their actions.

We have continued to explore how we can develop solutions to enable us to operate from a head office that is fit for purpose – for 2023 and beyond.

During the year we welcomed back Robyn Fausett as a Trustee.

Much of our time this year has been spent reviewing and updating all our key documents, including the WALSH Trust Deed.

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee also met monthly and we are pleased to present our Annual Audited Accounts.

We are grateful to have a Trust Board that is brave, committed to community service and providing significant diversity of thought and leadership.

WALSH Trustees:

Suzanne Sinclair – Chair

Gail Tongs – Vice Chair

Madhavan Raman – Chair of Finance, Risk and Audit Committee

Ian MacClure

Bram Kukler

Sonya Russell

Gayleen Maurice

David Lui

Phil Laird

Kaylene Parr

Pam Tate

Robyn Fausett

Our Chief Executive reports to the Board and the ‘Measures that Matter’ have provided a context, guide and focus for discussion. The work of our Board Secretary, Fiona Mackenzie has kept the Board up to speed and on track.

Our vision and values have grounded us and our role, to make the choices that create the future for the community we serve.

This will be the last AGM report that Rob will contribute to as Chief Executive. He advised the Trust Board of his intention to end his tenure at WALSH Trust on 28 January 2024.

He recalls his first day of work at WALSH Trust on 6 December 2003. He vividly recalls being shown to his office by Fiona after his powhiri, then sitting at his desk and wondering “*What do I do now...?!*” It was a momentary indulgence that never occurred again in the ensuing 20 years!

The organisation that Rob will be leaving is certainly far more robust than the one he joined in 2003. As we look with anticipation and excitement towards new leadership, we can muse with some confidence about what will WALSH Trust look like in 2043?!



Suzanne Sinclair
WALSH Trust Board Chair



Rob Warriner
Chief Executive