

FHRI Fund Communique #13

19 August 2025 Meeting

It is my pleasure to provide an update following my final meeting as the Chair of the Future Health Research and Innovation (FHRI) Fund Advisory Council. This meeting marked a significant milestone – the first since the official launch of the new FHRI Fund Strategy 2025-30 on 1 July 2025 at Murdoch University.

FHRI Fund Strategy 2025-30

The new [FHRI Fund Strategy 2025–30](#) sets an ambitious course for the next five years. It is designed to strengthen Western Australia's health system, stimulate economic growth, and improve health outcomes - while enhancing the State's position as a global leader in health and medical research and innovation.

The Strategy is anchored in three overarching themes and priorities:

- **Connect and Collaborate**
Empower pathways, strengthen collaboration, drive impact through an aligned focus, and be bold yet predictable.
- **Accelerate and Translate**
Underwrite innovation, activate the innovation community, and build investment partnerships.
- **Foundational Confidence**
Retain early- to mid-career researchers, attract and retain world-class talent, and strengthen WA's competitiveness.

Turning Strategy into Action

Implementation of the Strategy is now underway, with deliverables to be released over the coming months, including:

- an Investment Plan to demonstrate the strategic allocation of funding
- a catalogue of Programs & Initiatives (P&Is) aligned to the themes of the Strategy
- a Measurement Framework and a Reporting Framework to track performance, outcomes and impact of the new Strategy
- design and launch of the new [Spotlight Program](#)

FHRI Fund Open Day – RHD Spotlight Launch

At the Strategy launch, the Department of Health Director General announced Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) as the inaugural focus of the flagship Spotlight WA program. This important initiative will be formally launched at the upcoming FHRI Fund Open Day in Perth. Further details will be shared in the lead-up to the event. The RHD Spotlight reflects our commitment to targeted, high-impact research and innovation, tackling critical health challenges through strong partnerships and collaboration.

Reflections

As I conclude my term as Chair, I am filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve this vibrant sector. Working alongside the FHRI Fund Advisory Council, the Office of Medical Research and Innovation, Expert Committees and the broader health and medical research and innovation community has been an immense privilege. Together, we have seen the FHRI Fund grow in scale, ambition and impact - supporting research, fostering innovation, and investing in the health and prosperity of all Western Australians.

I am confident that the strong foundations we have built, together with the bold new Strategy now in place, will ensure the FHRI Fund's continued growth and success. I look forward to seeing the next chapter unfold and to witnessing the FHRI Fund's sustained contribution to the wellbeing of our State.

Thank you for your support, partnership and dedication. I have every confidence the Advisory Council and the entire FHRI Fund team will continue to take this important work to even greater heights.

Kind regards



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