



ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital Emergency Department

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) met with Launceston General Hospital (LGH) Emergency Department (ED) ANMF members on Tuesday, 21 September 2021. Members detailed to the ANMF the ongoing issues of access block within the ED and resultant concerns:

- Unsafe workloads
- Unsafe working environment
- Patient safety concerns
- Staff burnout and stress
- Staff turnover

Furthermore, members expressed concerns regarding the following:

- Current baseline roster gaps, up to 30 FTE
- Senior management consistently appearing to ignore the problem
- Lack of progress on the recruitment of a NUM and the limited consultation regarding proposed changes to support roles and or an increase in FTE for the position

As a result, ED members **unanimously** passed the following resolution:

'LGH ED ANMF members have met today, Tuesday 21 September, to discuss the current and ongoing issues of access block in the department. Members note the following concerns:



- *The slow progress in recruiting to the 21.3 FTE*
- *Persistent ramping of AT patients which creates an unsafe working environment, both physically and mentally*
- *Staff turnover, loss of experienced staff members which increases skill mix pressure by diluting senior staff*
- *Uncertainty regarding recruitment to the NUM position*
- *Persistent bed block*
- *Staff burnout*
- *Current baseline roster gaps, up to 30 FTE*
- *Senior management consistently appearing to ignore the problem*

Noting these concerns, ANMF members at the LGH ED resolve that the ANMF take whatever action is required to ensure Tasmanian Health Service provide an interim safe staffing plan for nurses working in the LGH ED, while concurrently ensuring long term safe staffing plans are being established.'

The ANMF will now implement the strategy discussed with members on the day for resolution of this matter. Further updates to follow.

The ANMF continues to support nurses, midwives, and care workers as the only union in Tasmania employing nurses and care workers to represent members. This is why our Organisers and Member Support Team are uniquely positioned to understand your experiences, represent you in your workplace, and offer industrial advice that's relevant to you.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Member Support Team via email on membersupport@anmftas.org.au. Email is the preferred and fastest way of contacting the team. Alternatively, you can phone (03) 6223 6777 or 1800 001 241 if outside Hobart.

Authorised by Emily Shepherd, ANMF Tasmanian Branch Secretary
28 September 2021