

# ANMF COVID-19 Newsflash: Excessive Ward Temperatures

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) have been attending daily COVID-19 updates with the Department of Health. The ANMF have had contact from numerous members state-wide regarding COVID-19 related workplace concerns, please see below for the latest updates:

**Ward Temperatures:** *Members have raised concerns in the North and South regarding excessive heat on the wards and units, stating that fans are being turned off in some areas to prohibit the transferring of potential COVID-19 infectious particles.*

The ANMF raised a Work Health & Safety concern as members are working in excessive heat. The ANMF questioned if a stagnant and humid environment would be appropriate in wards and units caring for COVID-19 patients and have asked who is issuing a direction to turn off fans. The ANMF have also suggested it might be worthwhile conducting air temperatures on the wards and units to ensure that they are within normal guidelines.

**The Department of Health have escalated the query to Dr Mark Veitch  
(Tasmania's Director of Public Health) who is seeking advice on the matter.**

The ANMF will provide an update on the above once received.

**The ANMF Tasmanian Branch is 8000 plus members strong! Supporting 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](mailto: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  
3 February 2022