



ANMF NEWSFLASH

Public Sector

Tasmanian State Budget Overview

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) attended the community budget lock-up this afternoon and reviewed the 2024-2025 Tasmanian State Budget papers.

The 2024-2025 budget is an expected one with funding allocations being directed to fulfilling State Budget commitments and only includes minor additional funding that will not address the chronic understaffing and access and flow demands that continue to plague the Tasmanian Health System.

Whilst recruitment incentive commitments are retained along with graduate nursing position incentives, there is also efficiency dividend and intent to reduce public sector full-time equivalent positions. Whilst the Government representatives have assured the ANMF that these positions will not be front-line positions or the roles that support them, it is still incredibly concerning given all roles within the health sector are currently essential.

Previously committed infrastructure funding is retained, but concurrently is a cap to public sector wages to 3.5% for the first full year from anniversary date of a new Agreement followed by 2.5% per annum the year after. Not only does this not represent good faith bargaining it also doesn't recognise the competitive environment that recruitment of nursing and midwifery positions is currently occurring in. This will not retain nor recruit Public Sector nurses and midwives in future Agreements.

Despite the lack of funding for health, there are some minor welcomed commitments which include:

- 1) May Shaw Centre health upgrades in the forward estimates.



- 2) Medical equipment funding to replace ageing equipment.
- 3) Funding to implement a peer support model to support mental health support for members and access to critical incident debriefing.

The ANMF welcomes the motion put forward in Parliament yesterday afternoon and amended by Independent David O’Byrne which was supported by the Liberals to convene a consultative committee meeting on **Friday 20 September 2024** to meet with Unions and Consumer Groups to discuss where the budget cuts will occur in health and offer the opportunity for a collaborative discussion concerning impacts and any alternate suggestions.

The ANMF Tasmanian Branch is 8000 plus members strong! Supporting nurses, midwives, and care workers as the only union in Tasmania employing nurses, midwives 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.

Authorised by Emily Shepherd, ANMF Tasmanian Branch Secretary
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