

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Temporary Heat Mitigation Not Enough, ANMF Members to Take Action

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has persistently urged the Tasmanian Government and the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) to permanently resolve the ongoing heat issues in Launceston General Hospital's (LGH's) D Block since 2017. Despite years of advocacy, staff and patients continue to endure extreme and unsafe temperatures.

Following urgent concerns raised by the ANMF and public pressure, the THS will trial portable A/C units in Ward 6D starting Friday 31 January 2025. While this offers some relief for staff amid forecasted extreme heat (29°C Saturday, rising to 34°C, 35°C, and 33°C in the following days), it is insufficient for patients. Additionally, the units must be turned off if airborne droplet precautions are required, making the solution ineffective.

Further, the ANMF is concerned that staff and patients in Wards 5D, 4D and Northern Coronary Care Unit (NCCU) will continue to endure oppressive working conditions, with little to no solutions provided by the department. As a result, the ANMF is urging members to assist in two ways:

1. Data Collection

In gathering real-time data by utilising ward-based temperature stations to document conditions in the D Block. Members from 6D, 5D, 4D, 4O/B, NCCU, 3D, 3R and any other effected areas are encouraged to submit photos of ward temperature readings via the following link: and NCCU are encouraged to submit photos of ward temperature readings via the following link: [ANMF LGH Temperature Survey](#).

We ask members to participate in this survey over the following dates:

Monday, 3 February 2025.

Tuesday, 4 February 2025.



Wednesday, 5 February 2025.

Thursday, 6 February 2025.

Friday 7, February 2025.

This data will be crucial in strengthening our case that the Government must provide the funds and infrastructure upgrade needed to take the LGH from a third world air cooling environment to a modern one.

2. Outside Mass Member Meeting: 1400 hours Tuesday 4 February 2025

The ANMF will be holding a **15-minute LGH Mass Member meeting at the Charles St Entrance on Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 1400 hours.** The ANMF will be discussing with members a resolution that calls on the Government to provide for additional and urgent funding in the 2025/26 Budget for a full refurbishment of the cooling and air-conditioning system in the D Block of the LGH. Cold refreshment will be on offer for members who attend.

Your support is essential as we push for a lasting solution. Please complete the survey to report concerns to the ANMF and we will see you on Tuesday at 1400 hrs. In the interim, if you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Member Support Team on 1800 001 241. Alternatively, email membersupport@anmftas.org.au.

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
3 February 2025