

## ANMF NEWSFLASH

# Mersey Community Hospital Medical Ward Benchmarking

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has advised Mersey Community Hospital (MCH) management that the proposed benchmarking presented on Friday 9 May 2025 for Medical Ward has not been endorsed by members.

The ANMF has advised management that members raised concerns around an already junior skill mix

- The ward already has a junior skill mix, and further reducing **Registered Nurse (RN)** presence would risk compromising safety of members and patients.
- Hospitals North West has declined to implement **Clinical Coaches (CC)** despite the ward meeting the Department's own criteria for **CC** support.
- The ward layout and the frequent requirement for two-nurse checks, particularly in the palliative care area, make safe staffing difficult under the proposed changes.

The ANMF shares members' concerns that implementing a 40–50% **Enrolled Nurse (EN)/ Assistant in Nursing (AIN)** mix on a ward with an already junior skill profile would risk compromising member and patients' safety. Members have indicated they may support benchmarking for a **33-bed model** — pending further consultation of how the additional 120 nursing hours would be allocated. The ANMF will continue to advocate strongly for safe staffing and will keep members informed of further developments.

**Together, we are stronger.**

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Authorised by Phoebe Mansell, ANMF Tasmanian Branch Secretary  
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