

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital

Have Your Say: D Block HVAC Upgrade

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has received a formal change proposal from the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) regarding the planned Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) upgrade within **D Block** at the **Launceston General Hospital (LGH)**. The project is predicted to commence in October and take **14-18 months** to complete.

The ANMF welcomes the HVAC upgrades to address the untenable summer heat on **D block** however, we recognise the decanting process may cause some challenges and we want to support members and address any concerns in order to facilitate a smooth transition.

The proposal outlines that to allow the works to be completed, each ward within **D Block** (levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) will be temporarily decanted.

The anticipated impacts include:

- **Ward 3R:** Will be relocated to **Calvary St Lukes** with beds reduced from 26 to 23. The THS states the staffing establishment of **Ward 3R** will remain unchanged but also indicates vacancies may not be recruited to – suggesting the establishment may, in effect, reduce. **Ward 3R** will accept less acute admissions due to being offsite. No mention is made of medical support or medical emergency processes off-site.
- **Palliative Care:** The four **LGH** palliative care beds at **St Lukes** will co-locate with **Ward 3R**. These beds will continue to be staffed by Calvary.
- **Ward 6D:** Will be relocated to **Ward 3R** for the full project (14–18 months), equating to the loss of **6 medical beds** at the **LGH**. Again, the THS indicates staffing may not be backfilled if vacancies arise.
- **Wards 5D, 3D, 4D:** Sequential temporary relocations to **Ward 6D** while works are completed.

- **Northern Coronary Care Unit (NCCU):** The plan for **NCCU** is not finalised yet due to monitoring and telemetry requirements.
- **John L Grove:** Investigation underway into increasing beds from 20 to 23 to offset rehabilitation capacity changes.
- **Ward 40:** Consolidation of 4 beds at a time while works occur.
- **Emergency Department (ED):** A change in the bed base accessible to **ED**.
- **Carparks:** Allied health carpark to close; 4 DDA spaces will be unavailable, these spaces will be temporarily relocated to the QV entrance.
- **Resourcing: The THS** acknowledge additional resources may be required for sub-acute beds at **Calvary** but provides no further detail.
- **Public/Private beds:** It is stated there will be an increase of 6 **public/private** beds, **the ANMF** is aware that there is a current agreement for 14 medical beds at **Calvary St. Vincent's**, **the ANMF** will clarify if this is being increased to 20 **public / private** beds.

What this means for members:

- Multiple ward relocations, with potential impact on workflow, workloads, and continuity of care.
- Risk of under-recruitment and further workforce instability.
- Unclear arrangements for medical support, emergency responses, and resource allocation at offsite locations.
- **Reduction** of acute medical beds at **LGH** during the works.

The ANMF will be preparing a response to this change proposal and is seeking member feedback on:

- How these changes may impact your patients, your team, and your workload.
- Concerns around recruitment, resourcing, safety, or industrial entitlements.
- Any suggestions or improvements that should be raised in consultation.

The change proposal can be accessed here: <https://anmftas.org.au/pdf/ChangeProposalDBlockLGH.pdf>

Please provide your feedback to **the ANMF** by **Friday 19 September 2025** via survey link. Your input will inform **the ANMF's** response and ensure your voice is heard during the consultation process.

Survey: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0199361d3ec474bc9cc9e6004111cbc6>



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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