

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital

Change Proposal D Block HVAC Upgrade Member Feedback

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has provided a formal response to the change proposal for the **Launceston General Hospital (LGH) D Block Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)** upgrade. While members and the ANMF recognise the importance of this project in improving patient comfort and staff working conditions, members reported concerns about the impact on patient safety, service delivery, and staff wellbeing.

Key Concerns Raised by Members:

- **Access and Flow impact:** There is concern that the reduction of acute beds will worsen already critical access and flow issues across the LGH. Members seek clear protocols for patients too unwell to remain at Ward 3R offsite and clarity around additional ambulance and Non-Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT) resources for transfers.
- **Medical support offsite:** The proposal provides no detail on medical coverage or response arrangements at Calvary St Lukes. Members would like confirmation of consultant and registrar coverage, as well as clarification on protocols for managing Code Blue, Code Black, and Code Grey responses off-site.
- **Workload and resourcing:** D Block Nurse Unit Managers (NUMs) have received no additional support despite the extra workload from relocations, enabling works and planning meetings.
- **Staff in offices adjacent to Ward 6D:** have not received communication of their relocation arrangements.
- **Minor works:** Minor works on Ward 6D are reportedly not proceeding due to “no money,” despite unresolved safety issues such as non-functional taps and desks that do not meet infection control standards.



- **Staffing levels:** The ANMF opposes the suggestion of not recruiting to vacancies during the works. Safe staffing must be maintained and with ongoing recruitment delays and roster shortfalls across the LGH, delaying recruitment for temporary bed reductions is counterproductive. Ward 6D members seek confirmation they will not be redeployed during the relocation period.
- **Staff wellbeing:** Concerns remain about parking, cafeteria access, and separation from LGH supports.

What ANMF is Seeking

The ANMF has requested:

- No reduction in recruitment or Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) during the HVAC works.
- Confirmation of medical and security coverage at Calvary St Lukes, including responsibility for emergency responses.
- Confirmation of additional supports to accommodate the increase in patient transfers.
- Assurance that patient acuity offsite will not exceed safe levels.
- Ongoing consultation with the ANMF and members throughout the project.

Next Steps

The ANMF will continue to work collaboratively to progress these important works. We will continue to keep members updated and advocate for safe staffing, service delivery, and staff wellbeing during this project. If you require assistance, please contact ANMF Member Support Team can be contacted via email on membersupport@anmftas.org.au or by phoning 1800 001 241.

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
24 September 2025