

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital

Ward 6D – Workplace Violence and Aggression

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has lodged a dispute on behalf of members working on **Ward 6D** at the **Launceston General Hospital (LGH)**.

Members have consistently reported exposure to physical and verbal aggression from patients, creating unacceptable risks to both staff and patient safety. Despite raising this numerous times and several Work Health & Safety (WH&S) reports, the current controls in place are not sufficient to address the risks, and episodes of violence and aggression continue to rise.

In addition, several environmental and occupational violence reviews of Ward 6D have been completed, but neither members nor the **ANMF** have received copies of these reports or their recommendations. Requests for these documents and the concerns of members on Ward 6D have been raised by the ANMF numerous times at Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) meetings however remain outstanding.

The **ANMF** has sought the following outcomes on behalf of members:

- Provision of the recently completed Ward 6D security/environmental review reports and recommendations to the ANMF and members within 14 days.
- The implementation and rostering of a Health & Security Officer (HSO) on every shift to reflect the patient cohort and risk profile of the ward.
- Recruitment of ward-based Assistant in Nursing (AIN)/Registered Undergraduate Student of Nursing (RUSON) staff to provide coverage for patients requiring 1:1 or 1:2 observational care.
- A trial of duress alarms to commence within 6 weeks.



- Consumers subject to a mental health order on Ward 6D, have a dedicated mental health nurse special for every shift.
- Transparent and public reporting of violent incidents.
- Enhanced signage to reinforce the zero-tolerance policy.

The ANMF has requested a formal response from the **Tasmanian Health Service (THS)** by **close of business Friday 17 October 2025**. We will keep members updated on developments and any further escalation required to ensure your safety is prioritised, the ANMF has informed the THS if this dispute is not resolved it will be dealt with under the provisions of the award – which includes escalation to the **Tasmanian Industrial Commission (TIC)**.

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
2 October 2025