

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital Operating Theatre Suite (ORS) Obstetric Emergency Theatre Concerns Update

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has contacted Launceston General Hospital (LGH) management today regarding reports that Operating Theatre Suite (ORS) members who signed the recent open letter about the inappropriate obstetric emergency theatre space are being approached individually by management.

In our correspondence, the ANMF made it clear that:

- The open letter was a **necessary action**, reflecting the significant courage of members who felt compelled to put their names to serious patient safety concerns whereby they felt their reasonable submissions to oppose were being ignored.
- Members believe the current makeshift obstetric emergency arrangements place **women and babies at risk**.
- It is deeply concerning that members who signed the letter are now being **singled out and approached individually** to explain or justify their concerns, which has caused distress and is perceived as targeted.
- The ANMF expects that members will **not be subjected to individualised scrutiny or adverse treatment** for raising legitimate patient safety and patient rights concerns.

The ANMF has advised management that we are available to meet collectively to discuss the issues raised and work toward a safe and appropriate resolution. This is also the strong preference of members. Noting the ANMF **have made requests** to do so, along with contacting **the Health Minister for intervention**, with **no response**.



Important information for members

The ANMF is advising members that if you are approached by management to discuss the contents of the open letter or your concerns about the makeshift obstetric emergency theatre space, you should:

- Request that any discussion be scheduled at a mutually agreed time and place with the **ANMF representation present**, and
- **Contact the ANMF immediately** to let us know.

The ANMF will continue to advocate strongly to ensure members are supported and that patient safety remains the priority.

If you have been approached, or if you have any concerns, please contact the ANMF 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
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