



ANMF NEWSFLASH

Launceston General Hospital Ward 5D Update

On Tuesday 17 February 2026, **the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF)** attended a report back conference at the **Tasmanian Industrial Commission (TIC)** regarding the **Ward 5D** grievance.

During conciliation, **the ANMF** strongly advocated for members' concerns, including the ongoing need for an indirect clinical coach, the impending conclusion of agency contracts in April, and the commencement of additional Transition to Practice (TtP) nurses in the same period. **The ANMF** highlighted the cumulative impact of these factors on workload, staff safety, and the delivery of safe patient care on **Ward 5D**. It was emphasised that current staffing arrangements are unsustainable and continue to expose members to unsafe working conditions.

The Tasmanian Health Service (THS) advised that the junior skill mix on **Ward 5D** remains at approximately **34.7%**. With new permanent and fixed-term staff due to commence shortly, along with an additional three TtP nurses in April, there are concerns this proportion will increase further. This is compounded by the ongoing vacancy in the Clinical Nurse Educator (CNE) position.

As a result of the conciliation conference, the following outcomes were agreed in principle:

- That clinical coaches will be classified as indirect hours as soon as practicable, with the direct hours requiring backfill. Following the recruitment, clinical coaches will continue to work indirect hours for 6 months, then to be reviewed prior to any change.
- The status of the Selection Report for the recruitment of the CNE position must be followed up as a matter of urgency.



- Three new TtP positions commencing in April will be supernumerary for three months and the direct hours backfilled by locums.
- A strategy to upskill staff to be trained in chemotherapy delivery is required.
- A **report-back conference** at the TIC is scheduled for **Monday 13 April 2026, at 1400hrs.**

The ANMF will continue to closely monitor the implementation of these commitments and advocate strongly on behalf of **Ward 5D** members to ensure outcomes achieved through the TIC translate into real improvements on the ward.

We will keep you informed of any developments. Your ANMF team is here to support you.

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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