

## ANMF NEWSFLASH

# Royal Hobart Hospital

## Children's & Adolescent's K6E/K6W Ward Update

Thank you to all members who attended the meeting on Wednesday 8 April 2026. Your engagement and willingness to speak openly about the challenges on the ward is critical to driving change.

A number of issues were discussed, including:

- Changes to rostering of night shifts.
- Lack of fridge between East and West.

However, the majority of discussion focused on serious and ongoing concerns regarding patients exhibiting complex, challenging, aggressive, and at times violent behaviours. Members reported that these situations are increasing resulting in staff accessing workers compensation.

Members also expressed that the ward is experiencing significant fatigue and burnout. While it is understood there may be work occurring behind the scenes to transition these patients who are not medically unwell, members advised there is no communication regarding this. This lack of transparency is contributing to feelings of being unsafe and unsupported in the workplace.

### Incident Reporting

Members are strongly reminded to complete a Safety Learning and Reporting System (SLRS) report for every incident. This is essential in ensuring risks are formally documented and cannot be ignored.

### Next Steps – Workplace Organising Committee

As these issues are not isolated, and noting the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch



(ANMF) has previously raised similar concerns with the Department, members in attendance supported the formation of a K6 Workplace Organising Committee (WOC).

This committee will bring together K6 ANMF members and your ANMF organiser to:

- Identify and prioritise key safety concerns.
- Develop practical strategies to address these issues.
- Drive implementation and hold the department accountable.

Several members have already committed to being part of this committee. Please provide your details in the below survey if you are interested in joining the WOC, this is your opportunity for broader involvement.

**Survey:** <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/019d84204b1c7bad8ed4b838c6cae2fd>

The Tasmanian Health Service (THS) has a clear obligation to ensure both your physical and psychological safety at work. If this is not being achieved, it is essential we work collectively to hold them accountable and demand meaningful change.

Your voice matters. Your safety matters.

Together, we are stronger.

The ANMF will continue to keep members updated.

**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.**

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Authorised by Emily Shepherd, ANMF Tasmanian Branch Secretary

16 April 2026