

ANMF NEWSFLASH

Royal Hobart Hospital Ward 2J

Step Two Grievance Update – Correspondence Received and Meeting Scheduled

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) has received correspondence from the Department following the escalation of Ward 2J workload concerns to a Step Two Grievance on Wednesday 4 November 2026.

Following this correspondence, the ANMF sought further clarification and information to assist in progressing the outstanding concerns ahead of the specialist panel meeting.

What Has Been Raised?

The ANMF reiterated that a number of concerns remain unresolved and requested:

- Confirmation of the current approved and funded Ward 2J establishment, including current filled and vacant Full-Time Equivalent (FTE).
- Further clarification regarding the ongoing use of Cardiac Day Unit (CDU) beds as flex beds and the expectation that ward-based staff regularly provide staffing to resource these beds.
- Consideration of reports that members have continued to experience pressure to accept patients into the treatment room, despite previous discussions indicating this was not considered feasible.
- A copy of the Statewide Hospital Demand and Escalation Policy referred to in the Department's correspondence.

The ANMF acknowledged that flex beds may be required during peaks of high demand; however, the regular reliance on Ward 2J staff to resource these beds, alongside the impact on elective cardiology procedures, raises significant concerns about the sustainability of the approach.



What has the Department Said?
In its correspondence, the Department advised that staffing for flex beds is primarily sourced through the Roster Support Unit. However, where required, ward-based staff may be asked to assist.

The Department acknowledged that the flex bed area on Ward 2J is located within the CDU and can affect elective cardiology procedures.

The Department has also indicated that the additional establishment information requested by ANMF will be progressed.

What Happens Next?
A Step Two meeting has now been scheduled for **Monday 16 November 2026**.

The ANMF and Ward 2J representatives will attend to advocate for meaningful measures to address the considerable and ongoing workload pressures experienced by members.

The ANMF will continue to seek transparency regarding Ward 2J's establishment and staffing arrangements, alongside appropriate measures to ensure workloads are safe and sustainable.

Thank you to all members for your continued engagement and support throughout this process. Your collective involvement in raising these concerns is essential to achieving a safer and more sustainable working environment for Ward 2J staff and the patients in their care.

The ANMF will provide a further update following the Step Two meeting.

The ANMF – Stronger Together.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please contact the ANMF Member Support on **(03) 6223 6777**.

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
12 November 2026