



One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes

One health system for everyone means that patients in the north will get higher quality services and better care.

Despite the best efforts of doctors, nurses and other health professionals, our health system is letting people down, it needs to change.

We have spent a lot of time listening to Tasmanians about what they need from our health system. Now we have released the final White Paper, which talks about the changes we will make so Tasmania's health system is better for everyone.

Instead of regional health systems competing against each other for specialists and equipment, we have now moved to one single state-wide system where we all work together.

This is not about saving money – it is about getting people off waiting lists and into better care.

Every hospital will remain open and have an important role to play.

Hospitals will specialise in the procedures they are best equipped to provide and patients will go to where the best service and experts are provided.

That may be on your doorstep, or it could mean going to a hospital a little further away. To make travel easier on patients and their families, we are investing \$24 million to strengthen transport and accommodation support.

What's important is that you will get the best medical attention.

This new, better coordinated approach will result in less duplication and waste, so a greater share of health funding can go towards more people getting treated and waiting lists being reduced.

The benefits of one health system will be shared around Tasmania with higher quality services and better results for patients.

Patient transport

As a result of the One Health System reforms we expect to see 8500 fewer patient trips from the North West to Hobart or Launceston, thanks to the addition of a North West Cancer Centre and a range of new services at the Mersey and NWRH.

The reforms also mean everyone has access to better health services throughout Tasmania.

To make sure you can access all the health care services available in Tasmania, the State Government is investing \$24 million over the next four years in patient and family transport and accommodation services. This means:

- **12 additional paramedics based in Devonport**
- **Addition of helipads** at the North West Regional Hospital and the Mersey Community Hospital to enhance our aero-medical retrieval capabilities.
- The Government will work with existing transport service providers to **establish a low-cost bus service** for patients and families between the LGH, the Mersey, and the NWRH.
- **Funding for new affordable accommodation** for patients and their families who need to travel for treatment.
- **Increased use of tele-health** so consultations with specialists elsewhere in the state can take place without you needing to travel.



What does this mean for the North?

One health system for everyone means that patients in the North will get higher quality services and better care when they need to use our health system.

The Launceston General Hospital has a vital role to play in a more coordinated health system that benefits everyone.

The LGH will remain a major referral hospital and it will be able to provide more complex health care. In some cases, the LGH will provide specialists across North and North West Tasmania so patients can access the best treatment.

Under One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes, the LGH will:

- **Deliver the Northern Integrated Cancer Service** also providing treatment to patients in the North West.
- **Increase a range of medical services**, including endocrinology, infectious diseases, neurology, respiratory medicine, rheumatology and pain management.

For more information go to:
www.onehealthsystem.tas.gov.au

Delivering Better Care

The LGH will continue to provide a broad range of medical services, and will remain the principal referral hospital for the North and North West Tasmania. Currently, more than a quarter of patients treated by the LGH live in the North West. The LGH will maintain its focus on supporting quality services for both its own community and that of the North West where required.

LGH clinical services will include:

- **Endocrinology** – services will increase to allow patients better endocrinology care with the aim of preventing complications and empowering patients to manage the disease in their homes and communities.
- **Respiratory medicine** – access to more highly specialised respiratory services will be increased with additional respiratory function assessment capability.
- **Rheumatology and pain management** – Improved access to specialist treatments.
- **Oral health services** – establishment of a dental suite and procedure room to improve waiting times and types of care provided.
- **Child adolescent mental health inpatient services** – increase the availability for inpatient services both locally and for the North West.
- **Geriatric services** – provide better access to specialists.