



# ONE HEALTH SYSTEM FOR EVERYONE

One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes

*One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes* is our plan to deliver a better health system for everyone.

Despite the best efforts of doctors, nurses and other specialists, 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 what is called 'a White Paper Exposure Draft' which talks about the changes we want to make so Tasmania's health system is better for everyone.

Instead of regional health systems competing against each other for specialists and equipment we are moving 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.**

The difference is hospitals will specialise in the procedures they are best equipped to provide and patients will go to where the best service and experts are.

That may be on your doorstep, or it could mean going to a hospital a little further away. To make any travel easier on patients and their families, we will look at how we can 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 the state with higher quality services and better results for patients.

[For more information go to: www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/onehealthsystem](http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/onehealthsystem)



## What does this mean for the North West?

One health system for everyone means that patients in the North West will be able to get higher quality services and expect better results when they require surgery and other health care support.

**The Mersey and the North West Regional Hospital have important roles to play in a more coordinated health system that benefits everyone.**

Currently a lot of money is spent on complex care which can and should be done more safely in bigger hospitals. At the same time services like neurology and rehabilitation are in high demand, but not always available on the Coast. We need to change that and we also need to think about the best way to deliver maternity care.

### Changes include:

- The development of an **Elective Day Surgery Centre** at the Mersey supported by surgical teams from around the State
- **Better cancer services** at the North West Regional.
- **An increase in high quality pre and post-operative surgical care** at the North West Regional.
- **More mental health services**, including for the elderly at the Mersey
- **New services** such as urology, rheumatology and pain management; and
- **Access to better services** including surgery, medicine, rehabilitation, drug and alcohol services, geriatrics and oral health as a result of support by visiting LGH and RHH specialists.

We will also work with the community and medical experts to make maternity and neonatal services much safer for mother and baby by looking at options to have them consolidated on one site.

### the patient journey

#### Now

Roseanne is a teacher in Wynyard, recently diagnosed with breast cancer. She initially had surgery at the NWRH. The next step in her treatment is radiotherapy, once a day, five days a week for five weeks. This is not available locally, which means Roseanne has to travel three hours a day to access the treatment, putting a strain on both her and her family when they are least able to cope with it.

#### One Health System

Following the development of a Northern Integrated Cancer Service that manages cancer services across the North and North West, a critical mass of staff working across the region enables the new linear accelerator to be commissioned for the North West.

Roseanne can now receive her radiation therapy at the NWRH, her daily travel for radiation treatment decreases to just 30 minutes, leaving her more time to spend with her family.

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