



Andrew Wilkie MP
INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR CLARK

The Hon Mark Butler MP
Minister for Health and Aged Care
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister *Mark*

I request a meeting with you as a matter of urgency to discuss the closure of Tasmania's only private inpatient mother and baby unit.

The unit is situated in Hobart's St Helens Private Hospital and will close at the end of this month. The unit caters mainly to private patients, with two of the eight beds available for public psychiatry patients. In response to this closure the Premier has announced the opening of three beds in the public health system for psychiatric referrals which means there will be no services available for private referrals from paediatricians and GPs.

The solution proposed by the State Government is obviously entirely inadequate, with desperately needed access to care restricted to only a small fraction of struggling parents. I will be available to meet with you to discuss this matter during the next two Parliamentary sitting weeks, and would be grateful if a time could be arranged for such a meeting.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Wilkie MP
Independent Member for Clark

6 June 2023