



Health and human services

The Tasmanian Government is building a health and human services system that will withstand the heavy demands of coming decades, including the future impact of demographic change, and provide the care and assistance Tasmanians need.

The Government's reform agenda is vital to the future health and wellbeing of the Tasmanian community. It includes putting Tasmania's Health Plan into action and implementing evidence-based changes to children and family services, disability services and housing, with the aim of increasing social inclusion and improving health and social outcomes in the State.

The past two years have seen significant planning and restructuring in these service areas. The 2008-09 Budget invests in the new service system that is the result of this work.

Budget initiatives

Implementing health and human services reforms

\$80 m

- Improving services to Tasmanians most in need by providing additional funding to support the implementation of reforms and development of new service models:
 - development of **family support services**; \$6 m
 - implementation of **disability service reforms**; \$26.3 m
 - the **Clinical Services Plan**; \$20.1 m
 - the **Primary Health Services Plan**; \$4.5 m
 - reform of **out-of-home-care services**; \$6 m
 - implementation of the review of **alcohol, tobacco and other drug services**. \$17.1 m

Improving local services

\$99.3 m

- **Upgrades to Bruny Island, Flinders Island, King Island, Glenorchy, Kingston and Longford/Westbury Health Care Centres**. \$31 m
- An **Integrated Care Centre at Launceston** to improve health services for Northern Tasmanians. \$18 m
- A **Clarence GP Super Clinic/Integrated Care Centre** to improve health services for Southern Tasmanians. \$18 m
- Employ full-time coordinators at **Neighbourhood Houses**. \$2.8 m
- Additional funding to support **reform and expansion of family support services**. \$29.5 m

Better patient care and health outcomes for Tasmanians

\$42.6 m

- Capital works and equipment for the **North West Regional Hospital**. \$3 m
- Additional funding for **ambulance and patient transport services**. \$5 m
- **Improving health information technology** for better patient care. \$18.6 m
- Helping Tasmanians to **give up smoking**. \$2.7 m
- **Abuse-in-care compensation payments**. \$10 m
- **Public Sector Health and Wellbeing Program** to encourage the adoption of healthy living practices by the public sector. \$3.3 m

Delivering improved housing services to Tasmanians most in need

\$99 m

- **Improving public housing** and increasing supply. \$60 m
- Ongoing **funding for housing initiatives**, community housing programs and crisis accommodation. \$39 m



Continuing initiatives

- **Tasmania's Health Plan** – this plan will guide investment in Tasmanian health services for the next 10 to 15 years, changing the focus of our health care system to prevent illness, as well as to treat it.
- **Investment in our hospitals** – a **\$900 million** allocation over six years to the Hospitals Capital Fund.
- **Hospital Equipment Fund** – **\$8.2 million** from the Government's **\$25 million** Hospital Equipment Fund to purchase new equipment for Tasmanian hospitals.
- **Ambulance funding** – continuation of a **\$10.7 million** commitment to purchase 100 new ambulances.
- **Launceston General Hospital** – continue the **\$12 million** redevelopment of the Launceston General Hospital Department of Emergency Medicine and **\$2.8 million** for a new magnetic resonance imaging device.
- **Additional nurses** – **\$5.2 million** per annum to employ more nurses in our hospitals.
- **Dental services** – **\$3.2 million** to continue the implementation of the Government's Better Dental Care package.
- **Menzies Research Institute funding** – **\$10 million** contribution to the redevelopment of the world-renowned Menzies Research Institute.
- **Smithton District Hospital** – **\$1.5 million** for the continued redevelopment and upgrade of the Smithton District Hospital.
- **Increased funding for community sector organisations** – **\$5.1 million** to provide indexation of funding to community sector organisations.

Tasmania – then and now

	1998	2008
Health and Human Services Department Budget	\$711.8 m	\$1,402.7 m
Hospitals and Ambulance Budget	\$330 m	\$692.2 m
Oral Health	\$9.3 m	\$22.7 m
Disability Services Budget	\$64.3 m	\$123.9 m
Mental Health Services Budget	\$38.1 m	\$79.8 m
Number of emergency department presentations	77,900	102,200
Number of nurses	3,010	3,637
Number of doctors	466	770
Ambulance call-outs	40,900	62,600
Number of adult dental appointments	27,000	34,200
Housing allocations to those in greatest need	73.1%	93.2%

Further information

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2008-09 Budget Paper set includes:
 Tasmanian Budget Speech
 Guide to the Budget
 Budget Paper No. 1 – The Budget
 Budget Paper No. 2 – Government Services (Volumes 1 and 2)
 Various brochures

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