Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

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Tasmanian Government

Ref: MIN26/1294

15 MAY 2026

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair
Government Administration Committee A
Legislative Council
C/- jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Forrest

Thank you for your letter of 27 April 2026 regarding matters taken on notice at the 17 April 2026 hearing of the Inquiry into the Financial and Operational Performance of the Department of Health.

1. **Please provide a breakdown of the $200 million for each financial year for the additional demand (pathology, radiology, 'winter wards').**

   Refer to Table 1.

2. **What is the ratio of administrative staff to clinicians (i.e., Department of Health versus the Tasmanian Health Service)? How has this ratio changed over the last 5 years?**

   Refer to Tables 2 and 3.

3. **How many new positions have been established in the Department in the last 12 months? Please provide a list of what those positions are, and the funding source.**

   Refer to Tables 2 and 3.

4. **Since the hiring freeze has been in place, what new roles have been created in the Department of Health and how was the creation of each justified during a hiring freeze?**

   Refer to Tables 2 and 3

5. **Please provide a breakdown of the $33,713,000 year to date savings as of 31 March 2026.**
   Refer to Tables 4 and 5.

Yours sincerely

Bridget Archer

Hon Bridget Archer MP
Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Table 1

Health Demand Funding	Amount $'000
Increased Infection Prevention and Control	
Additional Personal Protection Equipment	6 650
Hospitals North West	4 882
Hospitals South	1 316
Hospitals North	1 865
Public Health Services	2 000
	16 713
Quality and Patient Safety	
Hospitals North West	2 331
Hospitals North	474
	2 805
Patient Access and Flow	
Hospitals North West	15 719
Hospitals North	19 687
Bedside Medication Management	3 000
Pharmacy Charting Initiative	3 000
Hospitals South	34 396
	75 802
Emergency Department Review	
Hospitals North West	6 914
Hospitals North	8 171
Statewide Reforms	8 000
	23 085
Enhanced Cardiology Services	
Hospitals North	3 890
Statewide Reforms	5 000
	8 890
Investigative and Pharmacy Services	
Hospitals North West	2 180
Hospitals North	4 018
Hospitals South	6 763
Tasmanian Diagnostic Breast Imaging Service	2 000
Pharmacist Cancer Care Workforce	1 122
Statewide Pathology	2 000
	18 083
Strengthening the Nursing Workforce (NHPPD)	
Hospitals North West	7 808
Hospitals South	12 718
Hospitals North	9 215
	29 741
Sustainable Medical Services for Rural and Remote Areas	**3 439**
Statewide Security Uplift	**4 600**
Clinical Excellence and Innovation	**4 000**
Child Health and Parenting Service	**4 000**
Operationalising Services following Capital Works	
Hospitals North	5 977
Hospitals South	5 346
	11 323
Total	**202 481**

Table 2

- Paid Full Time Equivalent (FTE) data has been provided. This reflects the type of work (and therefore positions) performed at the Department. Paid FTE is used over Head Count (number of staff), due to the large number who work part-time at the Department

Paid FTE by Employee Category June 2021 to 31 March 2026

Employee Category	Jun-21	Jun-22	Jun-23	Jun-24	Jun-25	Mar-25	Mar-26	Increase June 2021 to March 2026	% Increase 2021 to 2026	Increase March 2025 to March 2026	% Increase March 2025 to March 2026
Clinical (Nursing & Midwifery; Medical Practitioners; Visiting Medical Practitioners; Allied Health Practitioners; Dental Therapists; Radiation Therapists; Ambulance Tasmania)	7201	7669	7978	8381	8798	8763	9060	1858	26%	296	3%
Operational (e.g., Cleaners, Environmental Health Officers, Food Services, Technicians, Dental Assistants, Orderlies, Attendants)	1695	1792	1876	1903	1902	1902	1916	221	13%	14	1%
Non-Clinical Health Professionals, Professional and Administrative Support Functions, Non-Clinical Management (e.g., payroll, hospital administration, policy and regulatory functions,	2604	2932	2866	3007	3033	3000	3070	466	18%	71	2%

recruitment, IT professionals, project and infrastructure management, budget management, accounts payable, reporting, IT, injury management, workplace relations, communications, senior executive service)											
Total	**11501**	**12393**	**12720**	**13292**	**13733**	**13665**	**14046**	**2545**	**22%**	**381**	**3%**

Table 3

Proportion of Total FTE by Employee Category June 2021 to 31 March 2026

Employee Category	June 2021	June 2022	June 2023	June 2024	June 2025	March 2025	March 2026
Clinical	62.6%	61.9%	62.7%	63.1%	64.1%	64.1%	64.5%
Operational	14.7%	14.5%	14.7%	14.3%	13.9%	13.9%	13.6%
Support	22.6%	23.7%	22.5%	22.6%	22.1%	22.0%	21.9%
Total	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**	**100.0%**

Notes:

- Employee category was determined by considering Award coverage and group/business unit.
- The following groups/business units were used to define non-clinical Health Professionals, Professional and Administrative Support Functions and Non-Clinical Management:
  - Bluegum Health Transformation
  - Chief Risk Office
  - Clinical Quality, Regulation and Accreditation
  - Emergency Coordination Centre
  - Finance and Business Support

  - Health ICT
  - Infrastructure
  - Office of the Secretary
  - People and Culture
  - System Management and Reform
  - Public Health
  - Senior Executive Service
- These positions are funded within the existing departmental budget.

Table 4

Budget Efficiency Dividend by Output 2025-26 Year to Date	
	YTD 31 March 2026
	$'000
Output Group 1 - System Management	
1.1 System Management - Health	1 826
1.2 System Management - Mental Health and Wellbeing	419
	2 245
Output Group 2 - Health Services	
2.1 Admitted Services	17 444
2.2 Non-admitted Service	3 498
2.3 Emergency Department Services	2 718
2.4 Community Health Services	3 337
2.5 Statewide and Mental Health Services	2 385
2.6 Ambulance Services	1 731
2.7 Public Health Services	357
	31 468
Total YTD Savings	**33 713**

Table 5

Budget Efficiency Dividend by Savings Strategy 2025-26 Year to Date	YTD 31 March 2026
	$'000
Improving Efficiency of Staffing Models/Rostering Practices	
Reduction in Overtime	3 203
Reduction in Casual FTE	2 339
Reduction in Agency Nursing	10 592
Medical Locum Savings	1 125
Nurse Roster Review Savings	5 250
Procurement of Supplies and Consumables	
Cost Effective Purchasing of Office Stationery	632
Improved Purchasing Practices for Low Value Items	2 325
Contract Management	
Savings on New Whole of Agency Contracts	6 000
Vehicle Expenses	
Reduction in the Department of Health Fleet	359
Office Accommodation Consolidation	
Reduction in Leased Office Accommodation	1 170
Consolidating Corporate and Policy Functions	
Reduction in Leadership Roles	720
	33 713