



TASMANIA'S HEALTH PLAN

Rural Health Service Redevelopment

Rosebery and West Coast Health Service Development

Tasmania's Health Plan introduced a new tiered service delivery model, services capability framework, accreditation processes and clinical audits to ensure that services provided are safe, high quality and sustainable. As part of this work, from 28 September 2007, the Rosebery Community Hospital became the Rosebery Community Health Centre, offering extended hours (open Monday to Friday from 8am – 6pm and from 9am – 5pm on weekends) and a wide range of primary health care services, including:

- General Practice (incl. pharmacy dispensing)
- After hours emergency support
- Clinic and Community Nursing & Midwifery
- Home-based palliative care
- Frail, aged community care, including Day Centre respite
- Regional health services, including mental health, youth health social work and health promotion
- Visiting allied health services
- Visiting health support services
- Community based social respite care including overnight social respite care by arrangement
- Meals on Wheels
- Health promotion
- Chronic Disease Self-Management Programs

To contact the Community Health Centre during opening hours telephone 6473 5700.

The telephone number for an emergency outside opening hours is 000. If required, arrangements will be made for the on-call doctor to meet patients at the Community Health Centre. GP Assist can also be contacted on 1300 78 0011 for non-urgent after hours medical assistance. If required, GP Assist will contact the on-call doctor who will see patients at the Community Health Centre. Zinifex mining is in on-going discussions with the DHHS to work together towards improving health services at Rosebery.

Developing the Central Highlands Community Health Service at Ouse

In the course of developing Tasmania's Health Plan, it was found that services at the Ouse District Hospital were not sustainable due to workforce shortages and the low usage of the four subacute inpatient beds, which had seen just 38 patient separations in 2005-06. In addition, the six aged care beds were heavily subsidised by the State Government despite aged care being a Commonwealth responsibility.

Tying up of resources in the aged care beds meant that the State Government was unable to focus on improving outreach services in the home through the provision of packages such as aged care in the home or hospital in the home. The changes implemented through the Plan aimed to improve services for the whole community, with a particular focus on primary and preventative health.

However, continuing concern in the Derwent Valley about the future of health services at Ouse have prompted an independent review of the feasibility of a multi-purpose health service at Ouse, as proposed by the local community. An Expression of Interest process to engage a consultant to provide an independent review of a proposal to establish a Multi Purpose Service for the Central Highlands has commenced.

Email future.health@dhhs.tas.gov.au, or leave a message on (03) 6233 3964.

www.health.tas.gov.au/futurehealth

March 2008