

Community Forensic Mental Health Services

The Community Forensic Mental Health Service is a confidential statewide service that assists people who have a mental health issue and/or intellectual disability who are:

- involved with the criminal justice system, or
- assessed as high risk of becoming involved with the criminal justice system as a result of their mental health and associated behaviour.

The service offers mental health assessment, liaison, counselling, support, education, advice and referral to other services.

We may be able to provide case management in some instances.

Who is eligible for our services?

Persons aged 18 years and over who have a mental illness and/or disability and are:

- on a Forensic Order
- on Magistrate's Bail with specific directions to present to Forensic Mental Health
- on probation or parole
- assessed as high risk of becoming involved with the criminal justice system.

Forensic Mental Health Services

For more information contact:

North 03 6777 1204

South 03 6166 0486

www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/mentalhealth



Tasmanian Health Service Buildings are smoke-free sites.

Statewide Mental Health Service welcomes feedback from clients, carers and family members to help us improve care. Talk to one of our team or fill in a consumer feedback form.



The Tasmanian Health Service integrates acute, primary and community services. This integration has given service providers the flexibility to ensure people have the best services we can provide, as close as possible to where they live.

Statewide Mental Health Services deliver consumer centred services focused on improving health outcomes. Our services include inpatient facilities and community teams.



Interpreter



Community Forensic Mental Health Services

Your guide to our service



Our team includes

- Psychiatrists
- Clinical Psychologists
- Community Mental Health Nurses
- Social Workers
- Occupational Therapists
- Court Liaison Officers

Services we provide

Our team delivers:

- mental health assessment
- risk assessment & management planning
- court ordered reports
- case management
- medication administration, monitoring & education
- therapeutic intervention, such as counselling
- consultation, support & education
- referral to other services.

Court Liaison Services

Court Liaison Officers in our team:

- Identify people before the court who may have a mental illness and make referrals to treatment and support services.
- Provide immediate assessment and advice to the court about defendants who may have a mental health problem.
- Provide initial screening assessment to determine fitness to stand trial.
- Support individuals and family members through the court process.

- Provide assessments, recommendations and oversight of participants to the Diversion List.

The Diversion List

The Diversion List is a specialist Court List in the Magistrates Court to meet the needs of defendants who have mental illness, cognitive impairment or a brain injury.

The List provides a therapeutic alternative to the general court process and participants voluntarily take part in treatment and rehabilitation programs.

Court Liaison Officers assess eligibility of participants and oversee their progress while on the program.

What are Forensic Orders?

The Supreme Court can place a person on a Forensic Order if they are found:

- Unfit to take part in the legal process, or
- Not guilty by reasons of insanity.

A person can be placed on either a:

Restriction Order - the person is detained in a secure mental health unit, or

Supervision Order - the person lives in the community under the supervision of the Chief Forensic Psychiatrist with specific conditions.

Each order is reviewed every 12 months by the Tasmanian Forensic Tribunal.

Useful contact numbers

Mental Health Services Helpline (24 hr)	1800 332 388
Advocacy Tasmania Inc.	1800 005 131
Alcohol and Drug Services	1300 139 641
Alcohol Drug Information Service [ADIS]	1800 811 994
Freedom of Information Unit	1300 766 725
Guardianship and Administration Board	1300 799 625
Lifeline (crisis counselling)	13 11 14
Lifeline Samaritans (mental health counselling)	1300 364 566
Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania (Free Phone Advice)	1300 366 611
Mental Health Carers Tas.	1800 985 944
Mental Health Tribunal	03 6165 7491
Tasmanian Aboriginal Community Legal Service	1800 064 865
Official Visitors Program	1800 001 170
Women's Legal Service	1800 682 468