

Wilfred Lopes Centre

Fact Sheet | June 2022



The Wilfred Lopes Centre is a specialised mental health facility located in Risdon Vale, Hobart. The Centre is located near Risdon Prison, however, is not a part of the prison.

We provide a care and treatment for people with mental health issues who are involved with the criminal system. The Centre provides up to 35 beds and includes high dependency, extended care, and semi-independent living.

We provide care for people who require specialist mental health inpatient treatment, and;

- are inmates of the Tasmanian Prison Service
- are appearing in, or remanded from Magistrate and Supreme Courts
- are found Not Guilty by Reason of Insanity or Unfit to Plead and placed on a Forensic Order.
- may require specialist care due to risk to themselves or others.

All care is provided in line with the Tasmanian *Mental Health Act 2013*, which includes *Your Rights as a Forensic Patient*. If you have any questions about the Act or your rights talk to your treating team.

The Centre is located at

East Derwent Highway
Risdon Vale
PO Box 125
Lindisfarne TAS 7015

Phone 03 6166 0502

Our Team includes

The Wilfred Lopes Centre is staffed by:

- specialist nurses
- psychiatrists
- psychologists
- a social worker
- an occupational therapist
- support staff

Your treating team will regularly discuss your care with you during your stay at Wilfred Lopes. Meetings will include your family, carer, or support when possible. Your treatment will support the eventual return to community living.

Your care

Care and treatment are provided in a modern therapeutic setting that supports independence and dignity. We provide high quality mental health treatment and care with levels of security that match the assessed level of risk. Our facility and programs are designed to reduce risk to the individual and to others.

The **Safewards program** is used to support clients, including family and carers, and staff to work together to make the Centre safer for everyone. Please ask us for more details about Safewards.

Care is based on rehabilitation programs tailored to the individual. Working together with you they focus on improved personal function and aim to lessen the ill effects of long-term care. Your treatment plan will aim to improve quality of life and address the need for personal and social interaction while in this setting.

We will also promote appropriate involvement in the prison community and/or the broader community to prevent isolation and assist in your return to community living.

Visitors

Visitors to the Centre are required to make an appointment.

First time visitors need to contact us with at least one-week notice.

Daily visiting hours are

9:00 am to 11:30 pm

1:30 pm to 4:30 pm

There is a strict process to follow for entry to the Centre. See the Visitor Information leaflet or contact us for full details.

Discharge

The Mental Health Tribunal oversees discharge from the Wilfred Lopes Centre in line with Tasmanian legislation.

All discharge plans are discussed with you and others as required. Discharge is planned to be gradual based on clinical improvement and reduced risk for you and others.

Security

Security provisions at the Wilfred Lopes Centre are based on based practice for secure mental health units.

We do not have correctional officers. Security is maintained for our clients and visitors through:

- highly specialised training of all staff and best policies and procedures.
- through risk assessments and case management of each client
- effective diversional therapy
- carefully designed buildings and security features.



Department of Health
1300 135 513
www.health.tas.gov.au

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

Tasmanian Health Service Buildings are smoke-free sites.