

MAYOR'S UPDATE

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED



NORFOLK ISLAND – THE BEST SMALL ISLAND IN THE WORLD

THE ONGOING CONUNDRUM OF NORFOLK ISLAND

“Norfolk Island is again in the overseas news – this time about whether or not Queensland will be the service provider on behalf of the Commonwealth for education and health services for Norfolk Island. I have received numerous phone calls and email requests from journalists to comment.

At my meeting with the Administrator yesterday afternoon I encouraged him to ask Assistant Minister Marino to issue a press release on this matter as a matter of urgency so that the community can be kept directly informed of the Commonwealth’s intentions on this matter instead of the community having to rely for information on ‘the local dem tull’; on mainland media and on quotes in the press from the Queensland and NSW Premiers. The Norfolk Island community deserves better than second hand misinformation” Mayor Adams said.

“When speaking to a motion on the matter of funding for the external territories jointly proposed by Christmas Island and Norfolk Island at the National General Assembly of Local Government in June 2019 I mentioned the conundrum of Norfolk Island, quote –

‘Norfolk Island is an external territory in the Pacific Ocean under the authority of the Commonwealth of Australia; has a New South Wales postcode; votes in the Federal seat of Bean in the ACT, but not in State elections; has an international dialling code of Antarctica that makes communication with the outside world prohibitively expensive and we are ‘serviced’ by a New Zealand airline’.

“One can only wonder if Queensland enters the mix as a service provider, whether this will further add to the confusion about Norfolk Island and where we fit.” the Mayor said.

Robin Adams JP
Mayor
Norfolk Island Regional Council
28 January 2021

‘We acknowledge the Norfolk Island People, the traditional custodians of this Island’