



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Response to Mainland media on Norfolk Island Services

There has been several mainstream media stories recently regarding the discussions being held between the Commonwealth and the NSW and QLD State Governments to provide Health and Educational services to the island.

New South Wales has provided these services to Norfolk Island for decades, including the period of Self Government. The Commonwealth Government continues the provision of these services today.

The Island has known about a possible change in provider for several years with the Commonwealth engaged in conversations with various States. From our perspective, a new agreement with any provider will provide certainty to our residents, which is a good thing.

We are happy to work with any providers of State services, as we want the best for our residents. If that is Queensland, then we look forward to receiving the same level of service we have enjoyed to date.

Tourism remains a priority as this is the lifeblood of our economy. Norfolk Island currently offers an opportunity to provide an 'overseas' holiday experience, without needing to leave Australia.

Norfolk Island Regional Council awaits the outcome of these high-level conversations and we look forward to working with which ever State the Commonwealth engages to provide these essential services to our community.

**Andrew Roach**

GENERAL MANAGER

29 January 2021