



MEDIA RELEASE

DRAFT DELIVERY PROGRAM & OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR PUBLIC FEEDBACK

You are invited to provide feedback on Council's Draft Delivery Program 2022/26 and Operational Plan 2022/23.

The Draft Delivery Program 2022/26 and Operational Plan 2022/23 is now presented for public consultation for 28 days, with written submissions accepted until 4.00pm on Wednesday 22 June 2022. The community is encouraged to read both plans and provide a written response submission to Council by email or mail.

Following the appointment of the Administrator on 5 December 2021, Council staff have been completely focused on responding to the conclusions of the Public Inquiry and completing the adopted External Audit Findings during the term of Administration.

Council's draft Delivery Program 2022–2026 and Operational Plan 2022-2023 have been developed to provide the direction to deliver the agreed outcomes of the Council in line with the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan (CSP) 2021-2026, the Norfolk Island 9 Point Action Plan 2020-2024, the External Audit Findings (EAF's), and conclusions of the 2021 Public Inquiry.

The key operational tasks and KPI's include the following areas of responsibility:

1. Economic Development
2. Corporate and Finance
3. Customer Care
4. Infrastructure Services
5. Planning and Environmental Services

Draft Delivery Program 2022/26

While addressing the above, the Delivery Program sets out the actions that we are committed to undertake over the next four year term.

Given that Council is under Administration until December 2024, it is imperative that the Program focuses primarily on the Council's Transition to Sustainability (TtoS). The Delivery Program outlines the areas of responsibility and resources realistically available to achieve Councils' vision and the identified strategic objectives.

Draft Operational Plan 2022/23

The Draft Operational Plan 2022/23 provides a surplus budget position of \$500K.

Council will use the increase of \$500K in revenue to partly fund the following major project expenditure of \$3.3M for 2022/23:

- \$1.4M Road maintenance and improvements
- \$0.3M Workshop and Depot
- \$0.35M Parks maintenance and improvements
- \$0.25M Library and Radio Station operation
- \$1.0M Tourism operation and support

The shortfall of these local service provision areas is met by the Commonwealth Government, subsidized by \$1.5M through the Financial Assistance Grant.

The Commonwealth Government also subsidises the Administration and Governance costs of Council in full through the Financial Assistance Grant at \$5M.

The report of the Public Inquiry was highly critical of Council's failure to raise sufficient rate revenue to fund necessary services and through charges to recover the costs of its business undertakings. This is now being rectified.

The Draft Operational Plan presents a significant change in the rating model previously used by Council. This report shifts from a very basic model of 4 rating categories, to a more detailed model utilising sub-categorisation for the first time, introducing 23 rating sub-categories. This model proposes to address the conclusions of the Public Inquiry process in both increasing revenue and improving the equitable distribution of that revenue burden.

Rating sub-categorisation is used extensively across other councils, primarily to address the vast differences we see in access to services by ratepayers, but to more effectively manage revenue collection to meet the needs of the community.

Please read the Message from the General Manager on our website http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/sites/default/files/docs/NIRC/MediaReleases/2022_05_25%20MR%20-%20Message%20from%20the%20General%20Manager.pdf prior to reading the Draft Delivery Program, Draft Operational Plan and Rates Map <http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/nirc-draft-delivery-program-2022-2026-operational-plan-2022-2023> and making your feedback submission.

Written submissions must be received by 4.00 pm on Wednesday 22 June 2022 by either of the following methods:

- Email:** customercare@nirc.gov.nf
 Subject Heading: Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan
- By mail:** Draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan
 General Manager
 PO Box 95
 NORFOLK ISLAND 2899

If you would like to make an appointment to speak with the Council Administrator, Mike Colreavy, to discuss these plans, or for any other matter, please email executiveassistant@nirc.gov.nf to arrange a meeting.

Andrew Roach
GENERAL MANAGER

25 May 2022

Scan QR code

