



Norfolk Island state service delivery **FACTSHEET**

Defensive Talking Points - September 2018

What do discussions with the ACT Government mean for Norfolk Island?

- The Australian Government is committed to making sure people on Norfolk Island are provided services comparable to similar regional communities on mainland Australia.
- There is a possibility that the NSW Government will not be able to provide the additional state services that Norfolk Island residents deserve (such as vocational education and training and consumer protection) and for this reason, we are exploring other options.
- The Australian Government has approached the ACT Government to deliver services and is in the very early stages of discussion. Formal discussions have not started. Until an agreement is reached, we will continue working with NSW and the Regional Council to ensure the community has access to the services it needs.

What does this mean for existing NSW Government services?

- Since 2016, service delivery through the NSW Government has delivered great benefit to the Norfolk Island community. We will continue to work with the NSW Government to make sure Norfolk Island has access to health and education services.
- The Australian Government's service delivery agreement with the NSW Government is in place until 2021, with schedules for education and health service delivery in place until mid-2019. We intend that these services continue to operate until this agreement expires. We will be negotiating with the NSW Government to ensure these services continue until 2021.
- We will ensure this will minimise disruption to the community. While arrangements for additional services are negotiated, existing services will remain the same. Changes to service arrangements with the school or hospital service will be designed with the community to minimise disruption.

Will this disrupt the school or curriculum? Will this affect the hospital?

- Existing service delivery arrangements are expected to continue in place until 2021. There will be no immediate changes to the current services available.
- The Australian Government has no plans to reduce staff numbers, remove services, or to affect the current arrangements with the NSW Government. We are also committed to a smooth transition and will work closely with NSW to ensure there is no disruption to students during the school year and that the level of care offered at the Norfolk Island Health and Residential Aged Care Service remains the same.

What services will be delivered through an alternative service provider?

- The Australian Government will seek to identify the next priority services in consultation with the Norfolk Island community and using co-design.
- If ACT Government agrees to enter into discussions about service delivery, the Norfolk Island community and service providers will be consulted and have an opportunity to co design the new service delivery arrangements.
- The selection of new services will be done in consultation with the community to ensure the community is able to access the services it needs.

When will the Norfolk Island community be consulted?

- The ACT Government has been approached as a possible service provider, but formal negotiations have not started.
- We want the Norfolk Island community to help design and prioritise the new services. We want to work openly and transparently with the community and the Norfolk Island Regional Council, to ensure services are designed with, and not for, the Norfolk Island community.
- We hope to be in a position to talk to the community by the end of the year.