



Number: A26/2025 **Date:** 3 November 2025

Welcoming Qantas to the Indian Ocean Territories

I am pleased to confirm the first Qantas flight from Perth to the Indian Ocean Territories has now arrived, marking a significant milestone for our communities on Christmas and Cocos Islands.

The new partnership with Qantas will support essential air services and connectivity between our islands and the mainland, providing long-term benefits to the community including through increased capacity for both passenger air services and freight.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to Virgin Australia Regional Airlines for the dedicated service they have provided over many years, including during the particularly challenging COVID-19 period, to keep our islands connected and supported. Their commitment to the IOT has been greatly valued.

To community members, businesses and travelers, I thank you for your patience, understanding and cooperation throughout this transition period. I recognise that change comes with questions and some short-term disruptions, so I greatly appreciate your support as we embed the new arrangements and continue working through the longer-term transition process.

I encourage everyone to keep up to date with information during this period through my regular bulletins, IOT News on Facebook and the Qantas website, https://help.qantas.com/support/s/article/Travelling-to-Christmas-Island-and-Cocos-Keeling-Islands

A dedicated Qantas call centre line, which is available on 1300 026 698 between the hours of 8am-7pm Christmas Island time, is available for urgent IOT route enquiries for individual passengers. For groups, the Group Travel team are available on 13 26 24, while travel agents can contact Qantas Agency Connect on 13 17 11 for assistance with agent bookings. Queries about any Virgin bookings should be directed to its contact centre on 13 67 89. If you have general questions about the transition process, you can contact IOTairservicestransition@infrastructure.gov.au

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