



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Communications

FOI reference number: FOI 22-050

Decision made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* – Release in full

I refer to your request to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (**the Department**) received on 12 September 2021 for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (**the FOI Act**). You requested the following documents:

“Full list of expenditures by the Australian Government for the Norfolk Island Central School (NICS) from 1 January 2015 to 12 September 2021 and including who was contracted and the amount allocated.”

Authority

I am an officer authorised by the Secretary to make decisions about access to documents in the possession of the Department in accordance with subsection 23(1) of the FOI Act.

Decision

I have made a decision to release relevant information the Department holds in full.

Documents subject to this request

The Department does not hold a specific document that is relevant to your request, however the information outlined below provides the information you are seeking.

- Since 2016, as part of the Heads of Agreement between the Commonwealth and State of NSW (the Agreement), the NSW Government delivers health and education services to Norfolk Island, and provides limited local government support, funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department).
- The NSW Department of Education receives funding as part of the supporting School Services Schedule, which sits under the Agreement, to provide education services to Norfolk Island Central School (NICS). This includes funding for the management and administration of the school, provision of teacher staffing and the delivery of the NSW curriculum and learning programs.
- Funding provided by the Department to the NSW Department of Education for the cost of running NICS and related services is below:
 - \$4,613,423.00 in FY 2016/17;
 - \$6,811,586.00 in FY 2017/18;
 - \$6,668,000.02 in FY 2018/19;
 - \$7,843,610.68 in FY 2019/20;

- \$8,613,634.24 in FY 2020/21; and
 - As at 12 September 2021, Q1 has not been goods received.
- Further to this funding, the Department provides direct funding to NICS for capital upgrades and the provision of (non-teaching) ancillary staff on an as needed basis. Funding details are as below.

Capital Works

The capital works projects include upgrades to school buildings, new classroom furniture, improved water quality, replacement of the ICT infrastructure and upgrades to the plumbing and electrical systems.

Financial Year	Amount	Capital Works	Facility Management Provider
2016/17	\$3,315,519.42	NICS Building Upgrades	Various
2017/18	\$374,336.00	NICS Building Upgrades	Manteena (various local suppliers)
2018/19	\$65,000.00 \$197,768.00	Roof extension of manual arts room General Maintenance	Venita (various local suppliers)
2019/20	\$157,000.00 \$185,760.00	Safety Upgrades (Fire alarm system) General Maintenance and minor capital works	Norfolk Electrical Venita (various local suppliers)
2020/21	\$236,694.00 \$168,709.00 \$33,500.00 \$108,662.00 \$247,040.00	General maintenance and minor capital Malcom Champion Oval Pavilion Courts Upgrade Retaining Wall & Shelter (minor capital) School toilet block	Ventia (various local suppliers) Jay Sanders Construction Sportsgroup Jay Sanders Construction & Christian Bailey Agencies O'Hara, Norfolk Electrical, Island Plumbing & Gas
2021/22 to 12 September.	\$28,751.00 \$292,573.00 \$72,772.00	General maintenance and minor capital Malcom Champion Oval Pavilion School toilet block	Ventia (various local suppliers) Jay Sanders Construction O'Hara, Norfolk Electrical, Island Plumbing & Gas

Ancillary Staff

Financial Year	Ancillary Staff	Contractor
2016/17	-	-
2017/18	-	-
2018/19	\$637,696.98	Effective People
2019/20	\$854,066.28	Effective People
2020/21	\$873,129.15	Effective People
2021/22 to 12 September.	\$242,191.88	Effective People

Publication of information in the FOI disclosure log

Section 11C of the FOI Act requires publication of released documents on the Department's online FOI disclosure log, subject to certain exceptions, including where publication of personal, business, professional or commercial information would be unreasonable. I have decided that the document released will be published on the disclosure log.

Your rights of review

If you wish to seek an internal review, you must apply to the Department within **30 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. An application for internal review must be made in writing by post to the FOI Officer or email to FOI@infrastructure.gov.au.

Alternatively, you may apply directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within **60 days** after the day you are notified of this decision. You can also make a complaint to the Information Commissioner if you have concerns about how the Department handled your request. You can find information about requesting a review, making a complaint, and other information about FOI on the OAIC website www.oaic.gov.au or phone the OAIC on 1300 363 992.

Contacts

If you wish to discuss this matter, please contact the Department's FOI Coordinator on (02) 6274 7393 or via email at FOI@infrastructure.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

S. Vandebroek

Sarah Vandebroek
First Assistant Secretary
Territories Division
3 October 2021