



Norfolk Island state services

Fact sheet

September 2022

The Australian Government is committed to ensuring stable service delivery, strong regulatory frameworks and comparable rights and protections for the Norfolk Island community through long-term arrangements for provision of state-level services.

Long-term partnership with Queensland

The Australian and Queensland governments entered into an enduring partnership to support provision of state services to Norfolk Island in October 2021. The partnership provides certainty and stability in key areas of state-level service delivery for the Norfolk Island community.

The Queensland Government is currently delivering educational services at the Norfolk Island Central School (NICS) and providing support and oversight of the Norfolk Island Health and Residential Aged Care Service (NIHRACS).

The Queensland Government has an extensive track record of delivering high-quality services to its community. Queensland is a strong fit to provide state-level services to Norfolk Island, bringing relevant capability and expertise to service delivery, including experience in delivering high quality state services in remote and island settings.

The Queensland partnership so far

Since service delivery by Queensland commenced on 1 January 2022, both governments have been working together very closely to ensure the Norfolk Island community continues to receive quality education and health services. The governments in partnership are keen to continue to build strong relationships with the local community via formal and informal engagement activities.

Queensland officials have regularly visited Norfolk Island in support of the ongoing service delivery arrangements and have appreciated the support and feedback provided by the community to enhance current education and health service delivery.

The Queensland Department of Education's Darling Downs South West Region provides operational support for NICS teachers and staff. Arrangements for the 2023 school year are well underway, including supporting current Year 10 students and their parents with subject selection and Senior Education and Training (SET)

planning as they prepare to be the first group of Norfolk Island Central School students to work towards the Queensland Certificate of Education.

Metro North Hospital and Health Service is a reliable and enthusiastic partner for NIHRACS. Metro North's Norfolk Island Support Team are providing ongoing coordination and corporate support functions. The Public Health Unit and Infectious Diseases clinicians have provided ongoing health advice to NIHRACS, particularly while COVID-19 has affected the Norfolk Island community. NIHRACS has hosted visits from several Metro North teams to establish arrangements to support specialist care for patients and to do fit testing of N95 masks for NIHRACS and other frontline workers.

A sustainable future for service delivery on Norfolk Island

The partnership provides stability for the community through a long-term partnership for state-level service delivery arrangements.

The agreement between the Australian and Queensland governments allows for the extension of state services beyond health support and education. The Australian and Queensland governments are working together to identify and negotiate additional services that Queensland may deliver to Norfolk Island in the future.

We will keep the Norfolk Island community informed and engaged as next steps are determined and decisions made.

The Australian Government continues its focus on improving the range of services, legislation and regulatory frameworks that apply on Norfolk Island, in consultation with the community.