Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Temporary changes to Cocos ferry services

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Relevant:	Cocos (Keeling) Islands residents and visitors		
Topic:	CKI ferry services		

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts advises the community and visitors on the Cocos (Keeling) Islands of upcoming short-term changes to the ferry service to allow necessary vessel survey and maintenance works.

The Cahaya Baru will be removed from service from 7 August to 18 August 2023, to ensure the vessel can continue to service the needs of the community.

During this period, the attached ferry timetable will run using the back-up ferry, the RJ Hawke. The RJ Hawke has a reduced capacity of 15 passengers compared to the 94-passenger capacity of the Cahaya Baru. This will have substantial impacts on the ferry services between the islands and we ask for your patience while these critical inspections and works are undertaken.

Unfortunately, during this period there will be no ferry service to Direction Island and no late-night services.

During this short period, it is recommended that movements between the islands for non-essential travel are limited. No passenger priority will be allocated. Cocos Co-Operative will be issuing tickets on first arrive basis for ferry transit.

The barge will be used in this time on air freighter days to transfer freight to Home Island and on flight days to support transport of baggage and freight.

At this stage, it is anticipated the Cahaya Baru will be back in service on 21 August.

The Department, through its ferry service contract with the Cocos Islands Cooperative Society and port management contract with Linx CKI Port, will monitor the patronage of the ferry services during this short disruption. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

Kim Forbes, Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch