



Norfolk Island Governance Committee

Communique - 15 February, 2024

The Norfolk Island Governance Committee (NIGC) has agreed that the new governance model will be developed in five stages:

Stage one - Establish the foundation for the new governance model: Stage one involves establishing a set of foundational elements upon which the new model will be based and evaluated, and a methodology and timeline to implement the new governance model. The NIGC will have a virtual meeting on 20 February 2024, following which the community will be updated on progress, including the foundational elements of the new governance model.

Stage two - Design the new administrative frameworks: This stage involves designing:

- The governing constitution to be enacted under Commonwealth legislation,
- Formal cooperative arrangements with the Australian Government and any agreed service-delivery partners,
- The new revenue model,
- A structured and planned transition to the new model, and
- Other arrangements necessary for the effective administration of the island moving forward.

The NIGC will seek expert advice to aid in developing and modelling these frameworks, aiming at the end of this stage to produce a draft governance model for the community to consider.

Stage three - Finalise the draft governance model: This stage focuses on refining the draft governance model based on community feedback and stakeholder engagement. It involves developing clear policy advice for the Minister and the Office of Parliamentary Counsel, which will draft the new Commonwealth legislation.

Stage four - Publish the proposed governance model and an exposure draft of the new Commonwealth legislation: This stage is about making the draft legislation available for public review and comment prior to its consideration by the Australian Parliament.

Stage five – Elections for the new governing body and implementation and transition to the new governance model.

Aspirational timeline

October 2023 – March 2024	April 2024 – June 2024	July 2024 – August 2024	September 2024 – October 2024	December 2024	2025 –2026
<p>Stage one - Establish the foundation for the new governance model</p>	<p>Stage two - Design the new administrative frameworks</p>	<p>Stage three - Finalise the draft governance model</p>	<p>Stage four - Publish the proposed governance model and an exposure draft of the new Commonwealth legislation</p> <p>Passing of Bill in Parliament</p>	<p>Elections for the new governing body</p>	<p>Stage five -Transitional arrangements</p>
<p>COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT</p>					

The NIGC continues to encourage active community comment and stakeholder engagement. Previous communiques and other public information about the NIGC are distributed through Norfolk Island media and online at <https://www.norfolkislandgovernance.com/> or on DITRDCA’s website at <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/territories/norfolk-island/norfolk-island-governance-administration/norfolk-island-governance-committee>. If you would like to comment on any of the above please contact NorfolkIslandGovernance@infrastructure.gov.au or the community representatives directly on NIGCcommunityreps@gmail.com