



**NORFOLK ISLAND**

**The Administration of Norfolk Island**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**Telecommunications services**

Planning for the future of telecommunications in Norfolk Island is proceeding well, according to the Acting Chief Executive Officer of the Administration of Norfolk Island, Mr Steve Mathews.

Mr Mathews said today that comments by the proprietor of Norfolk Island Data Services (NIDS) in *The Norfolk Islander* of April 22 were inaccurate and misleading.

"With all due respect to Mr Ryan, there are a number of technical reasons why Telecom's connection off island cannot be routed through NIDS. Clearly Mr Ryan is not aware of those reasons, nor the range of international services provided by Norfolk Telecom to the community", Mr Mathews said. "We are well advanced with the implementation of the strategic plan for telecommunications, including tendering for telecommunications carriers and for the provision of a GSM mobile phone network".

Mr Mathews said that other issues raised about relocation of the satellite antenna and the need for Norfolk Telecom to use NIDS facilities were fanciful speculation. He said that Norfolk Telecom would continue to provide high quality telecommunications to the community.

Steve Mathews  
**Acting Chief Executive Officer**

28 April 2006