



THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

“Meaningful and genuine discussions”: Chief Minister

Chief Minister David Buffett said today that his meeting in Canberra with the Commonwealth Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads (Hon Jim Lloyd MP) had been of great value.

“I met with Minister Lloyd and a small number of senior advisers in his office at Parliament House for over two hours on Thursday”, Mr Buffett said. “Our discussions were meaningful and genuine. We were able to discuss in detail the propositions put by the Norfolk Island Government for a way forward, and agreed to continuation of the meeting in a fortnight’s time”.

The Chief Minister said he will undertake these discussions, along with the three Norfolk Island Executive Members, in mid-November. The Commonwealth indicators confirm that a cabinet submission on Norfolk Island governance may be made in the latter part of this year, and the issues being discussed will form part of the prospective submission.

“I will report again as the negotiations progress”, Mr Buffett said.

6th November 2006