



THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Deepwater port moves a step closer

The Norfolk Island Government has accepted a tender offer from Patterson Britton and Partners to provide preliminary research, costing and design work for a proposed port to be built at Cascade Bay. The company has accepted a brief based on the statement made by Minister for Finance Neville Christian to the Legislative Assembly on 21 December 2006, which involved the following key points:

- (1) Design a structure that is a combination jetty and breakwater;
- (2) Exploration of the possibility of the structure being able to accommodate future wave generating electrical equipment; and
- (3) The docking basin created on the shelter side of the breakwater must be able to accommodate without tugs the following vessels:
 - the *Norfolk Guardian*;
 - alternative container ships typical of those servicing other Pacific island destinations;
 - cruise ships, not only the smaller adventure tourism types that have visited in recent times but larger types such as those operated by P & O and capable of carrying 2,000 or so passengers; and
 - all ships currently operated by the Royal Australian Navy.

Mr Christian said he had requested that the contractor's report include consideration of the most appropriate method of construction including a structure built entirely from suitable fill or alternately a structure built on piers anchored to the ocean floor. The report is due for completion within eight weeks.

Neville C Christian
Minister for Finance

16th March 2007