NORFOLK ISLAND

THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Toon Buffet Environment Trust
grant applications still open

The Minister for the Environment, Education and Social Welfare, the Hon Stephanie Jack MLA, has encouraged interested individuals and groups to apply for funding under the second round of grants to be issued by the trust established to honour the memory of the late Ivens (Toon) Buffett. Mrs Jack said that a number of projects funded earlier this year were underway and that there was growing interest in protecting and enhancing the unique environment and ecosystems of Norfolk Island.

The Ivens F (Toon) Buffett Environmental Trust draws its funding from the proceeds of the sale or conversion of Commonwealth crown leasehold land. The Commonwealth Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, the Hon Jim Lloyd MP agreed to place all funds generated from the first stage of the land initiative into the Trust.

The Trust is now inviting members of the community to lodge applications for grants of up to $25,000. Activities that can be considered for funding (but which must not be existing projects) include initiatives relating to environmental protection, heritage protection, natural resources management and land management.

A wide range of activities will be considered by the Trust. These include initiatives to protect habitats, to manage access to coastal areas or to improve public reserves as well as projects such as native vegetation planting to stabilise soil or control active erosion.

The Trust has produced detailed funding guidelines and a list of eligible activities. Full details and application forms for grants are available from the Conservator, Fred Howe, at the Land Use and Environment Office, 11 Quality Row. Mr Howe can also be contacted by telephone on 23588 or by email on fhowe@admin.gov.nf. Applications for funding close at 4.30 p.m. on Friday 28th September 2007.

Stephanie V Jack
Minister for the Environment, Education and Social Welfare

7th September 2007