



NORFOLK

ISLAND

THE ADMINISTRATION OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Commonwealth to assist with funding of increased baggage screening requirements for Norfolk Airport

The Administration of Norfolk Island has been informed by the Commonwealth Department of Transport and Regional Services that further increases in baggage security measures are required at 26 regional airports, including Norfolk Island. The key requirement is to bring domestic checked baggage screening requirements into line with international practice.

This will be achieved in two stages:

1. Random and continuous screening of domestic checked baggage utilising Explosive Trace Detection equipment will commence from the 1st December 2007; and
2. By 1st December 2008, 100% of all domestic checked baggage is to be screened using Explosive Detection System capable X-ray equipment.

The Department has determined that “airports that do not meet this requirement will not be able to continue with RPT jet services”.

The Commonwealth has informed Norfolk Airport that it is prepared to assist with “some of the capital costs associated with the commencement of CBS”, but that it does not intend to “cover all start up costs, nor any ongoing expenses associated with the programme”.

Norfolk Airport will receive \$61,000 towards the cost of one Explosive Trace Detection machine and up to a further \$600,000 towards the purchase of Explosive Detection Service capable X-ray equipment.

The Administration of Norfolk Island has confirmed to the Commonwealth that it will be in a position to comply with the CBS requirements within the specified timeframes, and that it will accept the funds offered toward the cost of equipment and installation. Other compliance costs and recurrent expenditure will be met by the Airport. The X-ray equipment will be accommodated within the existing airport terminal building.

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