

# Norfolk Island Regional Council

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### NEW ZEALAND FLIGHTS

Air New Zealand has made the business decision to stop operating the Norfolk Island to Auckland route which Norfolk has enjoyed and appreciated for so long. It is believed that they commenced the route in 1947 under the banner of TEAL.

This is difficult news for Norfolk Island and Council acknowledges the impacts that this will have in the short-term for families, businesses, visitors and freight. Council will remain positive, focussed and solution orientated. Council will continue discussions with Tourism Australia and will continue to strengthen that relationship and the marketing opportunities that brings for Norfolk Island. The General Manager and Mayor will participate in the Administrator's Working Group that was announced today.

It is very pleasing that Air New Zealand continue to see the Australian market as an opportunity and are increasing services to the island from Sydney and reintroducing some flights on Tuesdays to Brisbane in May and June. By May 2017 Air New Zealand Services from Australian ports to Norfolk Island will include:

One weekly service Brisbane-Norfolk from mid-June to the end of August;  
Twice weekly service Brisbane-Norfolk from September to mid-June;  
Twice weekly service Sydney-Norfolk from mid-May to mid-September; and  
Thrice weekly service Sydney-Norfolk from mid-September to April.

These additional Sydney services are most welcomed and Council will explore opportunities to not only have competitive connections to New Zealand through Brisbane and Sydney but to other destinations as well.

Whilst Council is obviously disappointed by this news, Council takes this opportunity to thank Air New Zealand for their longstanding support of Norfolk Island out of Auckland and the Mayor will be taking Mr Richard Thomson up on his kind offer for Air New Zealand representatives to come to Norfolk Island in the New Year to speak with Council.

The Norfolk Island community has, and always will be resilient and together we can work through this to ensure the best outcome for our island home. Council welcomes feedback from the community, please write to the General Manager at [regionalcouncil@nirc.gov.nf](mailto:regionalcouncil@nirc.gov.nf) or PO Box 95, Norfolk Island, 2899.

*Robin Adams*  
Mayor

*Lotta Jackson*  
General Manager

*16 December 2016*