

# MAYOR'S UPDATE

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED



## **BUSINESS CASE FOR REDEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH FACILITY ON NORFOLK ISLAND**

‘Councillors McCoy, Snell and I were very pleased to meet this week with consultants from KPMG who have been engaged by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities to conduct stakeholder consultation, including on-island community consultation, to develop capital works business cases for a new Norfolk Island Multipurpose Health Services (MPS) Facility on Norfolk Island,’ Mayor Adams said.

‘It is understood that both the targeted and community consultation will inform the initial Business Case, which will define the facility requirements, site options, master planning and cost estimation. The 2015 KPMG Health Service Plan will be updated post completion of stakeholder consultations. The Department is also planning to convene an open community forum in late January or early February 2019.

‘We were joined at the two-hour meeting by Administrator Eric Hutchinson, Dr Clayton Spencer (District Director of Medical Services Western NSW Local Health District), Ms Jocelyn Hickson (Manager, Norfolk Island Support Program Improvement and Innovation Hub SESLHD) and Ms Lotta Jackson (General Manager NIRC).

‘Readers will recall the earlier government commitment announced by Dr John McVeigh of \$1.2 million in the 2018–19 budget for the above work. Further it is understood that the 2011 *Hettae Ucklun* plans prepared by Architects without Borders for the new MPS facility will be built on in the co-design of the new MPS facility,’ Mayor Adams said.

‘Back in September, Assistant Minister Sussan Ley confirmed the government is now in early planning stages to design the new MPS facility, the aim being to cater for the unique needs of the island and to provide best value for money.

‘Council’s role under the Community Strategic Plan 2016–2026 includes, but is not limited to, advocacy for:

- coordination of healthcare services on Norfolk Island
- an integrated approach across health and aged care service providers
- future introduction of maternity services.

‘The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor and the General Manager have written recently to Assistant Minister Ley advocating on behalf of Council on how high-quality and affordable health services appropriate to an isolated community can be provided in the proposed new health facility that:

1. focuses on whole body wellness
2. meets the needs and expectations of the Norfolk Island community identified through vigorous broad community consultation
3. in the long term is capable of transitioning to a health facility in the Pacific with a modern operating theatre, maternity services, surgeons, anaesthetists, allied health professionals, a training facility for doctors, and more; and
4. complements a modern aged-care facility that honours the elderly and their contribution to the community over their lifetime.

‘Council applauds the Commonwealth’s acknowledgement of the importance of vigorous broad community consultation thereby establishing a sense of community ownership and responsibility in the outcome.’

**Cr Robin Adams JP**  
**MAYOR**