

NORFOLK



ISLAND

## THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

### MEDIA RELEASE

#### **Community consultations on NSL “very productive”: Minister**

In the absence off-island of the Finance Minister, the Minister for the Environment (the Hon Stephanie Jack MLA) has thanked the community for its cooperation over the past week in the process of gathering data to assist with the development and implementation of a new Norfolk Island consumption levy.

Mrs Jack said that the Australian Government had made available three senior officials from Treasury, Australian Taxation Office and Australian Bureau of Statistics to consult widely with various areas of the business community and with the Norfolk Island Government. “The consultations have been very productive and have resulted in a great increase in the information available to assist decision-making in this important area”, Mrs Jack said. “I am very grateful to the many representatives of all sectors of the Norfolk Island economy who willingly shared information during this process. Many well-reasoned and helpful suggestions were made to the officials and these will be considered by the NSL implementation team”.

Mrs Jack said that it had not been possible for the visiting officials to meet separately with every individual or business seeking to have input into the process. “The consultation process is far from over”, Mrs Jack said. “I encourage anyone who was not interviewed this week but wishes to give further information or to make suggestions to contact Finance Minister Ron Nobbs or the Administration NSL team at the New Military Barracks (telephone 22001)”.

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2005