



THE ADMINISTRATION OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

Changes to passenger departure fees

The Chief Executive Officer of the Administration of Norfolk Island, George Plant, has provided advance notice of the arrangements, which will apply, to airport departure fees if the 2009/10 budget is adopted by the Legislative Assembly at its next sitting. If adopted, the changes will have the effect that departure fees for all passengers on RPT flights will be removed and an equivalent amount will be included in air ticket prices.

“The amendments to the *Departure Tax Act* and Airport Regulations are being discussed by the Assembly next week”, Mr Plant said. “I understand that the current policy position of the Government is that the proposed increased rate will apply for tickets sold after August 1st 2009 (i.e. a delay of a month from what had earlier been proposed to start July 1st) and will apply to travel occurring after October 1st”.

Mr Plant said that the departure fee counter at the airport will continue to operate during the period from July 1st to September 30th, after which it will be closed.

“A similar set of waivers applicable to medical cases and school-aged children will be applied for travel following these changes, Mr Plant said. “The details on how these will be granted are being finalised now. The effect of the changes will be that travellers obtaining exemptions for these reasons will pay less tax than previously”

George Plant
Chief Executive Officer

26th June 2009