



Kingston Pier channel project

Background

Since the 1830s, Kingston Pier has been a vital link to Norfolk Island, stimulating community and economic development.

Its construction signified a major engineering and infrastructure achievement for the island and its 20th century history is rich and varied. Over the centuries, the pier has been subject to major changes to improve access and safety. Today it remains critical infrastructure for freight and cruise ship passengers and holds a foundational place in the hearts of the Norfolk Island community, particularly with its cultural significance and role in annual Anniversary (Bounty) Day celebrations.

There is widespread support for further improvements to enhance the growth of tourism, as well as community and economic wellbeing on Norfolk Island, and to complement improvements made to Cascade Pier.

The existing entrance and interior channel dimensions of the harbour adjacent to Kingston Pier are inadequate for safe navigation during all tides, and do not meet required navigation standards.

This project will seek to augment the channel bed at Kingston Pier, to increase its depth and width, to improve access and safety, and ensure it meets required standards. It will also support greater usage of the pier by commercial charter and fishing vessels and emergency responders.

Improved safety in all tides and all workable weather conditions would be achieved and be of considerable benefit to the community.

The development and delivery of the project will allow for:

- Extensive community and stakeholder consultation
- Use of local knowledge and expertise
- A design solution tailored to the specific needs of port users
- Improved conditions around the Kingston Pier including enhanced safety for all users and the ability to respond to marine search and rescue events in a wider range of conditions
- Reduced cargo-ship turn-around and associated delays in the offloading of freight
- A greater number of opportunities for cruise ship passengers to visit Norfolk Island
- Increased sustainability of local economy and wider residential community

Timeline

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development has appointed Advisian Pty Ltd to undertake technical investigations including environmental, geotechnical, hydrographic and tidal/wave, to



inform designs for an improved Kingston Pier. Community input and feedback, and existing expertise and knowledge, will be welcomed during the design development to ensure a safe and compliant solution is tailored and delivered to the community's needs.

All works will require development approval under the Planning Act 2002 (NI) and approval under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) ('EPBC Act') with consideration of any potential impact on protected environment and heritage values including Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA) and the Norfolk Marine Park. Similarly, requirements contained in other applicable legislation will also be addressed.

The Department currently anticipates that technical investigations, community engagement, and the development and approval of a design, will take nine months, followed by a five-month construction phase.

Community and stakeholder engagement

The Norfolk Island community co-designed the Norfolk Island Community Engagement Framework ([CEF](#)) in partnership with the Department. As outlined in the framework, the Kingston Pier Channel Construction project team, and successful contractors, will conduct meaningful planned engagement activities to ensure extensive community and stakeholder consultation, use of local knowledge and expertise, and the development of a design solution tailored to the specific needs of port users

Information will be published on the department website at https://www.regional.gov.au/territories/norfolk_island/index.aspx

Communication with the project team/consultant is available via a dedicated email address: territories_projects@infrastructure.gov.au

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