



GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

02 September 2026

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GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

NOTICE OF DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

General Assembly – 22 August 2026

Notice is hereby given of decisions and matters formally recorded by the General Assembly of the Government of Norfolk Island at its meeting held at Rawson Hall, Norfolk Island, on 22 August 2026.

The following outcomes are published as an official public record of the business considered under Items 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 3.1 of the General Assembly Notice Paper.

2.1 — Referendum Enabling Clause

The General Assembly approved an amendment to the Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026 and adopted the Referendum Enabling Clause presented at Annexure A to General Assembly Paper 2.1.

The amendment establishes express constitutional authority for the will of the General Assembly to be expressed, given effect and implemented by a Law made for that purpose, including through a referendum where appropriate.

The General Assembly authorised incorporation of the Referendum Enabling Clause into the consolidated Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026.

2.2 — Minor Operational Amendments No. 1: Community Submissions and Official General Assembly Records

The General Assembly noted the Resolution of the House dated 22 August 2026 adopting Minor Operational Amendments No. 1 to the Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026.

The amendments clarify:

- the administration and consideration of community correspondence and submissions;
- the function of General Business at meetings of the General Assembly; and
- the recording, transcription, certification and publication of official General Assembly proceedings.

The General Assembly noted that the amendments are administrative and procedural in nature and do not affect constitutional authority, sovereignty, institutional structure or rights under the Governance Charter.

The amendments took effect upon adoption by resolution of the House on 22 August 2026 and are to be incorporated into the consolidated Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026.

2.3 — Change of Date of November Meeting of the General Assembly

The General Assembly noted the decision of the House to change the date of the final scheduled General Assembly meeting for 2026 from 14 November 2026 to 27 November 2026.

The corresponding meeting date recorded under Part H, clause 40 of the Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026 is amended accordingly.

The change is an operational scheduling amendment and does not alter the constitutional role or authority of the General Assembly.

The next scheduled meeting of the General Assembly will therefore be held on Wednesday, 27 November 2026.

3.1 — Government of Norfolk Island Referendum Law 2026

The General Assembly adopted the Government of Norfolk Island Referendum Law 2026.

The Law provides a framework through which the will of electors may be formally ascertained and expressed by referendum on questions, proposals, Laws and other matters submitted in accordance with the Governance Charter and applicable decision-making pathways.

The Law establishes procedures for the initiation, administration, conduct, supervision, certification and declaration of referenda and provides for participation through approved voting methods.

The General Assembly authorised incorporation of the Referendum Law into the published Laws of the Government of Norfolk Island.

The adoption of the Referendum Law represents the first substantive Law adopted under the Governance Charter framework and provides a practical mechanism through which the direct-democracy principles of the Charter may be exercised beyond participation at meetings of the General Assembly.

PUBLICATION AND OFFICIAL RECORD

The decisions recorded above give effect to, or publicly record as applicable, the outcomes of Items 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 3.1 considered by the General Assembly on 22 August 2026.

The adopted amendments to the Governance Charter & Operational Manual 2026 will be incorporated into the consolidated Charter.

The Government of Norfolk Island Referendum Law 2026 will be maintained as part of the published Laws of the Government of Norfolk Island.

The certified transcript of the General Assembly proceedings will be separately published as the Official Written Record of Proceedings in accordance with the Governance Charter.

By Order of the Government of Norfolk Island

Terence Grube JP
Clerk of The House

02 September 2026