

ACT-NSW Memorandum of Understanding for Regional Collaboration

Ongoing Cross-Border Issues - FY 2020-21

| Key Focus Area 1 – Economic Development | | |
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| Issue Title | Issue Description | Lead Agency ACT & NSW |
| 1.1 Freight and Export opportunities | <p>The Canberra Airport is a major gateway to Canberra and the region. Direct international flights out of Canberra Airport have ceased due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. In addition, domestic traffic has significantly eased, leading Canberra Airport to close of certain days of the week. A managed increase in domestic air travel is a priority for National Cabinet and a safe return of commercial flights between Canberra and international destinations is in the interests of the ACT and broader Canberra region.</p> <p>Being strategically positioned within a major agricultural region across southern New South Wales, there are a number of potential benefits to routing air freight through Canberra Airport, particularly for time-sensitive fresh meats, fruits and dairy products.</p> <p>There are significant flow-on benefits associated with standalone cargo flights and passenger services, best demonstrated by the initial results from the Singapore Airlines 'Capital Express' services.</p> <p>We can leverage regional opportunities to create jobs, grow and diversify the economy, and build industry capacity by working collaboratively with the Canberra Region Joint Organisation (CRJO), relevant Local Government Areas (LGAs), the Canberra Airport, Austrade and the business chambers on freight and export opportunities.</p> | <p>ACT CMTEDD (ERP/ED)</p> <p>NSW DOI</p> <p>DPC RNSW</p> <p>TfNSW</p> |
| 1.2 Tourism opportunities and industry development | <p>A regional approach for joint tourism marketing and development between the ACT and Southern NSW are boosted by the Canberra International Airport, the development of the Port of Eden, and enhanced regional tourism offerings.</p> <p>Continue to identify opportunities to plan and develop joint tourism products and offerings to enhance the visitor economy of the Canberra Region - particularly focused on encouraging</p> | <p>ACT CMTEDD (VisitCanberra)</p> <p>DSNSW</p> <p>DPC RNSW</p> |

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| | domestic tourists to experience all the Canberra Region has to offer while international travel options remain limited. | |
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| 1.3 Defence industry opportunities | <p>NSW's Defence and Industry Strategy, the ACT's Defence Industry Strategy and the Canberra Region Defence Industry Capability Directory provide a platform for continued collaboration in the Canberra Region. The Defence Industry Advocates for NSW and the ACT collaborate on regional initiatives, enhancing industry opportunities and capabilities.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will work together to identify and align activities to enhance Defence industries and supply chains in the Canberra Region.</p> | ACT CMTEDD (ED) Defence NSW |
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| 1.4 Regional Industry Development | <p>The CBR Region brand was launched in 2015 and adopted by the South East Local Government areas and the ACT Government. It is now well established and identifiable as the marketable identity for the region.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will work with the CRJO to finalise a governance framework to support the CBR brand's development.</p> | ACT CMTEDD (ERP) DPC RNSW |
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| 1.5 Labour mobility in the NSW-ACT cross-border area | In an effort to reduce red-tape for cross-border businesses, the ACT and NSW Governments will work on opportunities for automatic recognition of occupational licences, in line with commitments made to a national approach through the Council of Federal Financial Relations. | ACT CMTEDD (PCD and Access Canberra) NSW CS |

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| Key Focus Area 2 – Built and Natural Environment | | |
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| Issue Title | Issue Description | Lead Agency ACT & NSW |
| 2.1 Cross-border catchment management | <p>The ACT and NSW support a whole of catchment strategic approach that ensures an integrated catchment management in the ACT and NSW South East Region. Both jurisdictions are members of, and participate in, the Murray Darling Basin Plan.</p> <p>The ACT Government and adjoining NSW local councils, along with the National Capital Authority and Icon Water, are members of the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW agree to progress regional collaboration, coordination and implementation of catchment initiatives under the South East and Tablelands Regional Plan and the ACT and Region Catchment Management Plan.</p> | <p>ACT EPSDD</p> <p>DoI Water</p> <p>SE LLS</p> <p>Relevant local government areas.</p> |

| Key Focus Area 3 – Integrated Service Planning | | |
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| Issue Title | Issue Description | Lead Agency ACT & NSW |
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| 3.1 Regional transport networks | <p>Collaborate on the enhancement of strategies to maintain and improve the resilience of regional transport hubs and networks.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will consult with regional transport planners and providers on establishing engagement and communication networks to support a best practice regional approach to security and emergency management as it relates to land transport operations.</p> | <p>ACT JACS SEMB</p> <p>TfNSW</p> |

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| <p>3.2 Planning and delivery of education and training services</p> | <p>Pre-school, school and VET students in the cross-border region are able to access both ACT and NSW facilities, subject to meeting the respective enrolment requirements.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will work together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure consistency of advice regarding school and transport options for students with special needs through development of protocols to support consultation between local education services teams and constituents. • align policies and procedures for teacher registration/accreditation and recognition of professional development activities. • Consider the implementation of aligned policies to allow students undertaking VET work experience / work placement access to workplaces in either jurisdiction, including the need to align WHS procedures prior to students participating in workplace learning. • ACT and NSW Governments to continue to explore cross border project opportunities in relation to VET. A particular focus has been on initiatives in the areas of economic development and regional planning, as well as exploring opportunities to support public providers outside of NSW to apply for a Smart and Skilled funding contracts. This would allow residents in the greater Canberra Region to benefit from wider access to training. | <p>NSW DOE ACT EDU ACT CMTEDD (ED) TSNSW</p> |
| <p>3.3 The protection and well-being of victims of domestic and family violence</p> | <p>NSW and ACT have enacted laws that allow for automatic information sharing and enforcement of Domestic Violence Orders (and similar) between jurisdictions. The ACT and NSW Governments are working together on this initiative through the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and are continuing work to remove barriers to information sharing arrangements.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to align services and enhance accessibility to housing and support programs for victims of family and domestic violence, including for children in affected families. • with stakeholders at all levels across the community and government as change of this magnitude takes the whole community to commit to a long-term effort. | <p>ACT CSD; ACT Coordinator General for Family Safety NSW DPC</p> |

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| 3.4 The protection of children and vulnerable people | <p>There are opportunities to enhance the protection of children and vulnerable people through the sharing of information and the alignment of services, including through changes to legislation. The ACT and NSW will continue to work to align information sharing legislation, policies, systems and procedures.</p> <p>ACT and NSW will work to facilitate the seamless and timely transfer of children on child protection orders across the two jurisdictions.</p> | ACT CSD NSW DPC NSW FACS |
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| 3.5 Roll out of NDIS | <p>Coordination of NDIS across the ACT and Canberra Region provides opportunities for improved care and outcomes for NDIS clients.</p> <p>The ACT and NSW will work collaboratively to resolve federal funding responsibility issues and monitor NDIS implementation for cross-border issues that may impact on equitable access for clients with a disability, including disability sector workforce capacity, skills and NDIS markets.</p> | ACT CSD NSW SC |
| | | ACT CMTEDD (ERP) / ACT CSD NSW SC |
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| 3.6 National Disability Data Asset | <p>The ACT and NSW will continue to work with the Commonwealth and other states and territories on the development of the National Disability Data Asset pilot.</p> <p>The National Disability Data Asset pilot will trial how to best link data from across government agencies to support public policy insights, enable digital solutions and protect privacy. The pilot will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• support five areas of public policy analysis: early childhood; education to employment; justice; mental health and outcomes data;• design and test digital solutions for people with disability, service providers and government user groups;• explore research frameworks and access controls to enable safe and timely access to data; and• identify data gaps and quality issues and develop/implement plans to address these. | ACT CDO NSW |
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| 3.7 Keeping communities safe | <p>A coordinated ACT/NSW approach to emergency management ensures that communities are better prepared for cross-border events, and that emergency services, functional areas and participating organisations can provide effective emergency management, communications and disaster recovery.</p> <p>The ACT-NSW Cross-Border Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery Steering Committee is well established and is ideally placed to facilitate further collaboration. The ACT and NSW will continue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordination and integration of emergency services and emergency response and recovery plans for the ACT and Southern NSW Emergency Management Region, with an emphasis on flood and storm emergencies. • joint emergency response and recovery training and exercise programs. | <p>ACT ESA</p> <p>NSW SC – OEM</p> <p>NSW SES</p> |
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| 3.8 Regional Intensive Care Unit (ICU) | ACT Health, NSW Ministry of Health and SNSW LHD to progress the execution of a Service Agreement to create an Intensive Care Network. | <p>ACT Health</p> <p>NSW Health (SNSW LHD)</p> |
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| 3.9 Regional medical retrieval | <p>Changes to contracted arrangements for regional medical retrieval necessitate a review of NSW and ACT agreements for the provision and support of these services. The ACT and NSW agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise the Heads of Agreement between NSW and ACT Health in relation to aeromedical retrieval services. • Discuss and review interstate reciprocal arrangements for ambulance service charges. | <p>ACT Health</p> <p>ACT JACS</p> <p>ACT ESA</p> <p>NSW Health</p> <p>NSW Ambulance (MoH)</p> |
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| 3.10 Better Regulation | <p>The NSW and ACT Governments are committed to regulatory reform, with an emphasis on better regulation.</p> <p>There are a range of options to expand on recent collaboration on the sharing of IT platforms to enhance the interface between Government and constituents and regulatory burden for business. This includes examining:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> opportunities for iCare to collaborate with the ACT Government. opportunities for alignment on other regulatory issues. | <p>NSW iCare</p> <p>Service NSW</p> <p>NSW CS</p> <p>ACT CMTEDD (ED/PCD)</p> |
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| 3.11 Guardian and Trustee | <p>The NSW and ACT Guardians and Trustees have identified areas where the development, recognition and execution of a range legal instruments are misaligned. The ACT and NSW agree to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine opportunities for the ACT Trustee to develop wills and associated materials for NSW residents. <p>Examine opportunities for the development of protocols to support the automatic recognition of NSW and ACT orders, including powers of attorney.</p> | <p>ACT JACS</p> <p>ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal</p> <p>NSW TAG</p> <p>NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal</p> |
| 3.12 Digital Collaboration | <p>Seamless cross-border service delivery will best be supported by collaboration across digital platforms and service models. There are opportunities for each jurisdiction to share approaches, align models and integrate services in digital service delivery.</p> <p>ACT and NSW will work together to identify opportunities for digital alignment and integration to support seamless cross-border service delivery.</p> | <p>ACT CDO</p> <p>NSW</p> |
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| 3.13 Fire Services Collaboration | <p>There are opportunities for the ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA) to partner with NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) in the development of bushfire communication products to share resourcing and align communication services. This would ensure a more coordinated and targeted approach to community engagement and reduce the risk of duplication in digital and communication products.</p> | <p>ACT ESA</p> <p>ACT CDO</p> <p>NSW RFS</p> <p>NSW</p> |

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| | The ACT and NSW have also agreed to investigate integration and tactical sharing of all jurisdiction's hazards information. | |
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| ACT Agency List | NSW Agency List |
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| CMTEDD – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | CBC – NSW Cross-Border Commissioner |
| CMTEDD (ED) – Economic Development Division | CS - Customer Service |
| CMTEDD (ERP) – Economic and Regional Policy Branch | DPC – Department of Premier and Cabinet |
| CMTEDD (PCD) – Policy and Cabinet Division | DPIE – Department of Planning, Industry and Environment |
| CSD – Community Services Directorate | DOE – Department of Education |
| EDU – Education Directorate | EPA – NSW Environment Protection Authority |
| EPSDD – Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | DoI Water – Department of Industry Water |
| ESA – Emergency Services Agency | SC – Stronger Communities |
| JACS – Justice and Community Safety Directorate | MOH – Ministry of Health |
| JACS (SEMB) – Security and Emergency Management Branch | OEM – Office of Emergency Management |
| TCCS – Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate | SNSW LHD – Southern NSW Local Health District |
| ACT Chief Digital Officer (CDO) | DNSW – Destination NSW |
| Other | DSNSW – Destination Southern NSW |
| CBRJO – Canberra Region Joint Organisation | TfNSW – Transport for NSW |
| QPRC – Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council | RMS – Roads and Maritime Service |