

CONFIDENTIALCABINET DECISIONNO. 1207

Submission No.: 1034

Title: INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE
FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL.

Cabinet approved -

- a) that a Working Party be established forthwith consisting of senior representatives of the Departments of Health, Transport and Works, Treasury, the Housing Commission and the Co-ordinator General to consider the future use of the Darwin Hospital in accordance with the Terms of Reference with the qualification that this Working Party is not to duplicate the work of the previous Working Party set up under Cabinet Decision 1015 of 19 December, 1979; and
- b) that the Terms of Reference of the Working Party be -
- . to identify all buildings not required for use by the Northern Territory Department of Health and as a private hospital;
 - . to determine those buildings no longer required and recommend the method of disposal/demolition;
 - . to allocate those buildings remaining for Government, quasi-Government or private purposes;
 - . to determine the leasing arrangements including tenure, rentals, payment for services, buildings and grounds maintenance;
 - . to advise on the formation or otherwise of a Committee of Management for the continued use of the facilities; and
 - . to allocate buildings for other use as they become available following the transfer of patients to the Casuarina Northern site facilities.

T.C. Lovegrove
T.C. LOVEGROVE

(~~XXXXXXXXXX~~),

Secretary to Cabinet.

21 May, 1980.

ctg.

CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR CABINET

SUBMISSION No: 1034

Title:	INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL
Minister	HONOURABLE IAN TUXWORTH, MINISTER FOR HEALTH
Purpose:	TO ESTABLISH AN INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE TO DETERMINE THE BEST POSSIBLE USE OF THE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES AT THE DARWIN HOSPITAL
Relation to existing policy:	-
Timing/ legislative priority:	-
Announcement of decision, tabling, etc:	-
Acting required before announcement:	-
Staffing implications, numbers and costs, etc:	-
Total cost:	-

Department/Authority LAW

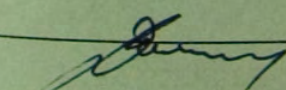
COMMENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.

TITLE: FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL

COMMENTS:

There are no constitutional or legal barriers to the proposal.

SIGNED:



DESIGNATION: LEGISLATIVE DRAFTSMAN
for SOLICITOR GENERAL

DATE: 6 May 1980

CONFIDENTIAL

Department/Authority DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

COMMENT ON CABINET SUBMISSION No.

TITLE: FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL

COMMENTS:

Submission supported.

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[Handwritten signature of P.F. Temple]

SIGNED: P.F. TEMPLE
DESIGNATION: Deputy Under Treasurer
DATE: 6/5/80



NORTHERN TERRITORY HOUSING COMMISSION

DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

IN REPLY
PLEASE QUOTE

3-1-19

TELEPHONE: 80 9611, Ext. 617
TELEX: 85293.

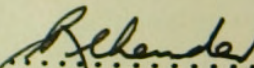
TELEGRAMS: "COMHOUS" DARWIN.
P.O. BOX 884, DARWIN, 5794.
P.O. BOX 644, KATHERINE, 5780.
P.O. BOX 135, TENNANT CREEK, 5760.
P.O. BOX 2209, ALICE SPRINGS, 5750.

8 May 1980.

The Secretary for Health,
The Secretary,
Department of Health,
P.O. Box 1701,
DARWIN, N.T., 5794

CABINET SUBMISSION - FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL

The Housing Commission supports the recommendations in the above draft Cabinet Submission and has no objections to becoming a member of a Working Party to consider the future use of the Darwin Hospital in accordance with the stated Terms of Reference.


.....
H.R. ZEHENDER,
for Chairman.



NORTHERN TERRITORY OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER

P.O. BOX 4396
DARWIN, N.T. 5794

File Ref: 80/11

7 May 1980

The Secretary for Health,
Department of Health,
P.O. Box 1701,
DARWIN, N.T. 5794.

10. 8/5

CABINET SUBMISSION - FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your draft Cabinet Submission proposing an interdepartmental committee to determine the future use of Darwin Hospital facilities.

This Department supports in principle the proposals outlined in your Submission.

N. LYNACH
ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

Yours sincerely,

D.P. GARBEN



11

SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND WORKS

DARWIN

13 May 1980

MJ - 13/5/80

Dr C. Gurd,
Secretary,
Department of Health,
P.O. Box 1701,
DARWIN N.T. 5794

Dear Charles,

CABINET SUBMISSION - FUTURE USE OF DARWIN HOSPITAL

Your Department recently forwarded a draft Cabinet Submission on the future use of Darwin Hospital.

In the circumstances I agree with the establishment of a Working Party to consider the future use of the Darwin Hospital.

As Treasury's direction 21/23 requires that all land, buildings and improvements surplus to departmental requirements shall be declared to the Department of Transport and Works, I would expect that this Department would have a major role on this Working Party.

Yours sincerely,

D.F. DARBEN

THE ISSUE

- 1 To establish an interdepartmental committee to determine the best possible use of the buildings and facilities at the Darwin Hospital after the transfer of acute patients and staff to the Casuarina Hospital.

BACKGROUND

- 2 On 25 February 1980 Cabinet in consideration of the recommendations following receipt of the Campbell/Southwell Report Cabinet Decision No 1088 dated 25 February 1980.

'(C) Agreed to the interim arrangements for psychiatric, geriatric and handicapped children patients at Darwin Hospital and to the temporary retention of the rehabilitation psychiatric, handicapped children and high security infectious disease units, as well as the further development of alcohol services at Darwin Hospital.'

CONSIDERATION OF THE ISSUES

- 3 With the transfer of acute patients and facilities to the Casuarina Hospital in May only chronic patients will remain at the Darwin Hospital. As a consequence further use will have to be found for the unoccupied wards and buildings.

4 Consideration of the future use of the Darwin Hospital will be on the basis of three components namely -

- (a) Buildings retained for use by the Northern Territory Health Department.
- (b) Buildings required for use as a private hospital.
- (c) Remaining buildings required for use by others.

5 The buildings required for the NT Department of Health will be to accommodate -

- (a) Psychiatric and geriatric patients, severely handicapped children;
- (b) psychiatric day centre;
- (c) alcohol detoxification unit;
- (d) rehabilitation;
- (e) high security infectious disease unit
- (f) store;
- (g) central chest clinic;
- (h) Northern Region Administration, including Aboriginal Health Worker Training facilities;
- (i) staff accommodation and amenities.

6 Buildings identified for possible use as a private hospital are -

- (a) Kahlin Wards Block
- (b) Operating Theatres/Central Sterilizing
- (c) Boilerhouse
- (d) Incinerator
- (e) Kitchen and Bulk Store

- 7 The remaining buildings are almost entirely accommodation units either of permanent or demountable construction. Most of the demountable buildings have been set down for disposal and removal from the site. The large accommodation buildings complete with recreational facilities, including a half-olympic size swimming pool, would most likely be best employed as Government or private accommodation, for example, hostel or hotel facilities.
- 8 It is strongly advised that however it is decided to use the hospital buildings over the next five years the Government keeps its options open making it possible to re-establish them as a second hospital for Darwin at the end of this period or if conditions indicate at the time to dispose permanently of the buildings.
- 9 Much of the preliminary work such as the calling of Tenders for a private hospital has already been completed by the Departments of Health and Transport and Works, but it is now proposed that a high level Government Working Party be established to superintend the calling of tenders, conditions of lease etc of the buildings to be released from Government usage. The composition of the Working Party to be senior representatives of

- . NT Department of Health
- . Department of Transport and Works

- . Department of the Treasury
- . Housing Commission
- . The Co-ordinator-General

10 The terms of reference of the working party to be

- . to identify all buildings not required for use by NT Department of Health and as a private hospital;
- . to determine those buildings no longer required and recommend the method of disposal/demolition;
- . to allocate those buildings remaining for Government, quasi-Government or private purposes;
- . to determine the leasing arrangements including tenure, rentals, payment for services, buildings and grounds maintenance;
- . to advise on the formation or otherwise of a Committee of Management for the continued use of the facilities; and
- . to allocate buildings for other use as they become available following the transfer of patients to the Casuarina Northern site facilities.

OPTIONS

11 The following options are offered -

- (a) for the NT Department of Health to make recommendations for the future use of the Darwin Hospital. Because of the complexity of the problem it is considered that the expertise available through other government

departments should be drawn on to arrive at the solution;

- (b) the formation of an interdepartmental Working Party with specific terms of reference.

12 Option 11(b) is the preferred option.

PUBLIC IMPACT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

13 Because the opportunity will be given to the public to tender for the use of the surplus buildings for use as a private hospital and for other purposes widespread acceptance is likely.

CO-ORDINATION AND CONSIDERATION

14 The proposal to establish a widely based Government Working Party to decide on the future of the Darwin Hospital has been discussed with the Department of the Treasury and full agreement reached.

RECOMMENDATIONS

15 It is recommended that -

- (a) A Working Party be established forthwith consisting of senior representatives of the Department of Health, Transport and Works, Treasury, Housing Commission and the Co-ordinator-General to consider the future use of the Darwin Hospital in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

(b) The terms of reference of the Working Party to be -

- . to identify all buildings not required for use by NT Department of Health and as a private hospital;
- . to determine those buildings no longer required and recommend the method of disposal/demolition;
- . to allocate those buildings remaining for Government, quasi-Government or private purposes;
- . to determine the leasing arrangements including tenure, rentals, payment for services, buildings and grounds maintenance;
- . to advise on the formation or otherwise of a Committee of Management for the continued use of the facilities; and
- . to allocate buildings for other use as they become available following the transfer of patients to the Casuarina Northern site facilities.

