1. Norfolk Island is an Australian external territory, located 1,440 km east of Brisbane, which has a population of around 1,748 people (2016 census). The island was self-governed until 2015, when the Federal Government replaced the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly with an Administrator, established the Norfolk Island Regional Council (NIRC) and assumed responsibility for funding and delivery of national and state-level services to the island.
2. New South Wales has delivered specified state-level services and regulatory functions to the island since 2016.
3. On 12 November 2020, the Deputy Prime Minister wrote to the Premier and Minister for Trade seeking the Queensland Government partner with the Federal Government to provide state-level services and regulatory functions on Norfolk Island when the current arrangements with the New South Wales Government end in 2021.
4. Terms of the partnership are outlined in a Heads of Agreement, which commits both parties to work together to develop a detailed Intergovernmental Agreement and Service Delivery Schedules to support the provision of critical health services and school education services when New South Wales ceases service delivery.
5. Cabinet approved that the final decision to sign the Heads of Agreement be delegated to the Premier and Minister for Trade.
6. *Attachments*
* Nil.