**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme –**

**East Arnhem (Nhulunbuy) Flexible Aged Care Service Project**

**Expression of Interest Form**

November 2015

**About the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme**

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme referred to in this document as the Activity, is a component of the Residential and Flexible Care Programme.

The Activity funds organisations to provide quality aged care services that meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in a culturally appropriate setting, close to home and community.

Services funded under the Activity are located mainly in rural and remote areas and is part of the Australian Government’s strategy to improve the quality of and access to aged care services for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Activity is administered outside of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.

[*For more comprehensive information about the Programme please refer to the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programmes Guideline Overview.*](https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/grant-programmes/ageing-and-aged-care-programmes/national-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-flexible-aged-care-programme)

# About the East Arnhem Flexible Aged Care Service Project

The East Arnhem Flexible Aged Care Service project comprises of three stages:

**Stage 1** – Develop and design the Flexible Aged Care Service in Nhulunbuy, East Arnhem.

Consult with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in East Arnhem to plan, develop and design an Aged Care Service that is: efficient and cost effective; meets the needs of the local community including environmental, social and community needs; and caters for complex care needs including dementia and severe behaviours.

**Stage 2** – Construction of the Flexible Aged Care Service

Undertake a process to select an organisation to construct an aged care service. This includes entering into necessary contracts and managing and overseeing the construction and fit out of the aged care facility including ensuring that standards of building performance, quality, cost schedules and safety are maintained.

**Stage 3** – Operation of the Flexible Aged Care Service

Operate the Flexible Aged Care Service to provide care recipients with services that meet their needs. This includes meeting regulatory and legislative requirements and the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander quality standards and promoting a continuous improvement framework.

*Note: The overview of Stages 2 and 3 is for information only. Further selection process will be undertaken at a later date for Stages 2 and 3. Successful EOIs will be invited to apply for Stage 1 only.*

**Expressions of Interest**

The Australian Government is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from experienced organisations interested in delivering the East Arnhem Flexible Aged Care Service Project at Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory.

A further selection process may be required to select an organisation to deliver the project. To reduce duplication of effort, information submitted by respondents as part of this EOI may be used for future selection processes related to this project.

Funding for the development and operation of the aged care service will be made available from the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme. Information regarding funding for the construction of the aged care facility will be made available, at a later date, once the development of the relevant aged care programme guidelines is complete.

# *The Location of the Flexible Aged Care Service*

The Commonwealth Government in collaboration with Northern Territory Department of Health (NT DoH) have undertaken extensive community consultations to inform the establishment of a flexible aged care service in Nhulunbuy.

The Northern Territory Government has made land available for the construction of the flexible aged care facility on the campus of the Gove District Hospital.

Once operational it is envisaged that the flexible aged care service will be established under a ‘hub and spoke’ model delivering residential aged care services to care recipients with complex care needs, respite and some disability services for the surrounding communities.

*Additional information on East Arnhem and existing services is available at* [*Appendix A*](#OLE_LINK5) *and* [*Appendix B*](#_Hlk435086433)*.*

# *Timelines to establish the Flexible Aged Care Service*

It is planned to have the flexible aged care service operational by the end of the 2016-17 financial year.

Stage 1 of the process is expected to be completed by the end of June 2016.

# *Funding*

Further selection processes may be conducted for funding for the development, construction and operation of the flexible service following finalisation of the EOI process.

***Eligibility***

To satisfy eligibility requirements for the Activity, applicants must fall into one of the following categories:

* 1. Incorporated Associations (incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have 'Association' or 'Incorporated' or 'Inc.' in their legal name)
  2. Incorporated Cooperatives (also incorporated under State/Territory legislation, commonly have ‘Cooperative' in their legal name)
  3. Companies (incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* – may be a not-for-profit or for-profit proprietary company (limited by shares or by guarantee) or public companies)
  4. Aboriginal Corporations (incorporated under the *Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006)*
  5. Organisations established through a specific piece of Commonwealth or state/territory legislation (public benevolent institutions, churches, universities, unions etc)
  6. State and Territory Governments
  7. Local Governments
  8. Where there is no suitable alternative, an individual or – jointly and separately – individuals. Where (h.) is used, it also needs to be stated who the decision maker is on the issue.

**COMPLETING THIS FORM**

This form contains the following:

Part 1 – Details of the Organisation Expressing an Interest

Part 2 – Expression of Interest Criteria

Part 3 – Contact Details and Declaration

Part 4 – Attachments

Expressions of Interest forms will be used to determine whether your organisation is suitable to progress to a selection process. Completing an Expression of Interest form provides no assurance or guarantee of receiving funding.

**Where relevant, your responses will be limited to 1000 words per question.**

# *How to apply*

Expressions of interest must be lodged electronically, using the Expression of Interest form. Expression of Interest forms must be completed and submitted via e-mail to [selections@dss.gov.au](mailto:selections@dss.gov.au) and must be lodged by the closing date. Please quote 2015-139 on all documents. Applications received after the closing date and time will not be accepted.

DSS will acknowledge receipt of your application by email. Please email [grants@dss.gov.au](mailto:grants@dss.gov.au) if you have not received acknowledgement within 48 hours of submitting your application.

# *Programme Guidelines*

The Programme Guidelines provide the key starting point for parties considering whether to participate in the activity and form the basis for the business relationship between the Australian Government and the funding recipient. Applicants are strongly advised to read the [Programme Guidelines Overview](https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/grant-programmes/ageing-and-aged-care-programmes/national-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-flexible-aged-care-programme) prior to completing an Expression of Interest Form.

# *Multicultural Access and Equity Policy*

*Australia’s Multicultural Access and Equity Policy*: Respecting diversity. Improving responsiveness obliges Australian Government agencies to ensure that cultural and linguistic diversity is not a barrier for people engaging with government and accessing services to which they are entitled, for example, by providing access to language services where appropriate. Grant applicants should consider whether services, projects, activities or events may require the use of professional translating or interpreting services in order to communicate with non-English speakers.

# *Closing Date and Time*

Applications should be submitted by email to [selections@dss.gov.au](mailto:selections@dss.gov.au) by 2:00pm AEDT, **Thursday, 21 January 2016.**

# *Who to contact?*

Please email your enquiries to: [grants@dss.gov.au](mailto:grants@dss.gov.au)

# *Questions*

Questions can be submitted via email to [grants@dss.gov.au](mailto:grants@dss.gov.au).

Unless already answered in the documents that comprise the Expression of Interest Pack, responses to emailed questions will be published on the funding round page within five working days of their receipt. DSS will only respond to requests for information that seek clarification of issues to allow applicants a better understanding of the requirements of the Expression of Interest Form, and [Programme Guidelines and Manual](https://www.dss.gov.au/grants/grant-programmes/ageing-and-aged-care-programmes/national-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-flexible-aged-care-programme).

DSS will not accept or respond to any applicant’s questions, requests for information or correspondence about the status or progress of their expression of interest from the 13th January 2016 to the closure of the expression of interest period and during the assessment phase.

**Appendix A**

**East Arnhem Land**

Introduction

The Australian Government is committed to the establishment of a new culturally appropriate aged care service in Nhulunbuy which will benefit Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people aged  
50 years and older in East Arnhem Land. For additional information refer to section 2.5 of the Programme Guideline Overview.

Nhulunbuy has been agreed by stakeholders as being the appropriate location for the new Flexible Aged Care Service and land has been made available for this purpose. Nhulunbuy was chosen for the following reasons:

# It is a major town with sufficient infrastructure such as an airport, hospital etc.

* It is considered a neutral place that would be comfortable for all people across East Arnhem Land.
* The ability to be a hub with significant outreach capacity (to spokes).
* It has good access to transport and possible options for staff housing.
* It has acceptable levels of infrastructure (power, water, communications, roads, health services, etc.).
* It can be developed into a centre for training and skill development for East Arnhem people.
* The East Arnhem Flexible Aged Care Service will be the aged care services hub for the East Arnhem region. There are 9 (nine) communities where care services are delivered through Home Care Packages (Home Care), Home and Community Care (HACC) and disability services:
* Gapuwiyak
* Yirrkala
* Marngarr
* Numbulwar
* Angurugu
* Umbakumba
* Ramingining
* Milingimbi
* Galiwinku

A flexible service model in East Arnhem Region will enable better coordination, service delivery and support across the region through strong linkages between aged and disability care services, allied health and training services for service providers, staff and family members. (Please refer to Appendix B – Existing Services within the Region).

Demographics

The East Arnhem region is located in the far north of the NT with the Arafura Sea to the north and the Gulf of Carpentaria to the east. The region covers the Arnhem Land Aboriginal Trust (excluding Bulman), an area of approximately 41,000 sq. km. It encompasses the towns of Nhulunbuy (the regional service centre of EA Land) on the Gove Peninsula, Alyangula on Groote Eylandt, the islands of Elcho and Milingimbi and the major Aboriginal communities on the main land.

The recent suspension of Rio Tinto’s alumina mine and refinery operations has resulted in the township population reducing from over 4,000 people in 2011, to just over 2,000 people at end December 2014.

A formal three year transition and stabilisation process to support the community through the consequential changes was developed and implemented by the Northern Territory Government in February 2014. Subsequently people from the outlining communities are relocating to Nhulunbuy in addition to the public servants and private providers of infrastructure services who have resided there in the long term.

The East Arnhem Region is unique among the regions in the NT in that all land is held in trust by the Aboriginal Land Trust, which is enacted under the Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act.

The East Arnhem Region is one of the most isolated areas in the NT with few roads and limited road transport facilities during the dry season. All major access roads become impassable during the wet season. Most population movement throughout the region is by aircraft.

Target Population

The ageing population of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are all persons aged 50 years of age and over. In 2011 the ageing population in East Arnhem Land made up 8.06% of the total NT population, with 7.06% being Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

**Table 1: 2011 Northern Territory population by region: general 70+ and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people 50+**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Region** | **Total Population of NT** | **NT Population General 70 +** | | **NT Population Indigenous 50+** | | **Total Population General 70+ and Indigenous 50+** | |
| **Number** | **% of Total** | **Number** | **% of Total** | **Number** | **% of Total** |
| Darwin | 120,585 | 4,334 | 3.59% | 1,491 | 1.24% | 5,825 | 4.83% |
| Alice Springs | 36,066 | 1,186 | 3.29% | 1,973 | 5.47% | 3,159 | 8.76% |
| Katherine | 17,823 | 529 | 2.97% | 1,137 | 6.38% | 1,666 | 9.35% |
| Barkly | 5,720 | 197 | 3.44% | 476 | 8.32% | 673 | 11.77% |
| East Arnhem | 14,019 | 140 | 1.00% | 990 | 7.06% | 1,130 | 8.06% |
| **Totals** | **194,213** | **6,386** | **14.29%** | **6,067** | **28.47%** | **12,453** | **42.76%** |

*Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011 Census*

The East Arnhem Flexible Aged Care Service will be required to support remote service delivery to meet the changing needs of people with disabilities whether progress, present from birth or acquired through accident or misadventure.

Accurate numbers of people with disability are more difficult to quantify than aged people. Support for care recipients is minimal, tends to be community-based on an individual basis, with support from the East Arnhem Aged and Disability team. Respite is arranged, however is limited due to lack of appropriate available services.

Machado Joseph Disease (MJD) is a genetic disease that is incurable and can start to affect people in their late teens, with increasing incapacity over time. Mean life expectancy after diagnosis is 20 years, with long term high level care generally required with 10 years of diagnosis. The number of people affected by MJD is increasing; many are less than 50 years of age when they need support.

**APPENDIX B**

**Existing Services in East Arnhem Land**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Gove District Hospital (GDH)** | **Provider** | **Location** |
| The hospital is a 32-bed acute care facility providing medical, surgical, paediatric, respite and maternity services. There are 15 remote community clinics that refer patients to hospital for inpatient, outpatient and specialist care.  The hospital provides a district medical officer service to the region. This role encompasses medical advice, conduction of community clinic visits, orders to admit patients to the hospital, evacuation of patients via Air Medical Services to Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH). | NT DoH | Nhulunbuy |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Respite Services** National Respite for Carers Programme (NRCP) | **Provider** | **Location** |
| East Arnhem Carer Respite Service Provides a flexible and innovative respite service that responds to the individual needs of Carers in the whole of East Arnhem. Target group: Carers of aged/frail people and carers of children and adults with a disability (including mental illness). | Anglicare | Nhulunbuy |
| East Arnhem Mobile Respite Service  Aims to identify carer respite need in the Homelands during the dry season. At times they will provide basic respite during their visits but refer carers to the above service. Target groups are: carers of: the frail aged, people with dementia, people with disabilities and people in need of palliative care. | Anglicare | Nhulunbuy |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Residential Respite Services** | **Provider** | **Location** |
| Multi-Purpose Service (MPS) at GDH. Established in 2007 to offer culturally appropriate residential respite services for older people. The creation of the EA FACS enables an opportunity to incorporate the activities of the MPS | NT DoH | Nhulunbuy |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Flexible Aged Care Service** National Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme | **Provider** | **Location** |
| Mungkadinamanja Flexible Aged and Disability Service  12 place (5 high, 6 low and 1 home care) service with the capacity to offer overnight respite and residential care. | EARC | Angurugu |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Home and Community Care (HACC) Services** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| East Arnhem Regional Council | East Arnhem Regional Council | East Arnhem Region |
| Roper Gulf Shire Council - HACC Services | Roper Gulf Regional Council | Roper Gulf Region |

| **Home Care Packages** | **No. of HCP** | **Level** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Anglicare NT | 5 | 2 | Anglicare NT | Nhulunbuy |
| East Arnhem Regional Council | 91 | 2 / 4 | East Arnhem Regional Council | East Arnhem Region |
| Marthakal Health Service | 7 | 2 | Marthakal Homeland & Resource Centre Incorporated | Marthakal Homelands |
| Laynhapuy Homelands Aged Care | 10 | 2 | Laynhapuy Homelands Association Inc | East Arnhem Region |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Transition Care** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| The programme provides short term support in a non-hospital environment to older people after a stay in hospital, allowing them to complete their recovery, optimise their functional capacity, and finalise longer term arrangements.  The Northern Territory Transition Care Programme has 29 places that can be used flexibly across the NT. | NT DoH | NT |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Palliative Care** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| Palliative care is specialised care and support provided for someone living with a terminal condition. Palliative care also involves care and support for family members and carers.  Palliative care is provided in a sensitive way, taking into account individual and family uniqueness, cultural and spiritual beliefs and lifestyle patterns. Territory Palliative Care is a consultative service throughout the Northern Territory | NT DoH | NT |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Disability Services** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| Community Access Services - provides support for people with disability to access and participate in community activities. | Anglicare | Nhulunbuy |
| East Arnhem Carer Respite Services | Anglicare | Groote Eylandt |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rehabilitation Services** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| SEAT Clinic and Prosthetics and Orthotics Clinical (A&D visiting service from Darwin): SEAT clinic measures clients to ensure they are correctly fitted for wheelchairs as well as other mobility aids such extra foam inserts for wheel chair users | NT DoH | NT |
| Territory Independence Mobility Equipment Scheme (TIMES) - Provision of aids and equipment) | NT DoH | NT |
| Orthotics / Prosthetics (Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) Visiting Service from Darwin) | RDH | NT |
| Rehabilitation Specialist (Visiting Service from Darwin) | RDH | NT |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Allied Health Services** | **Provider** | **Service Area** |
| East Arnhem Aged and Disability Team provides a range of visiting services throughout East Arnhem region including: Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Pathology and Disability Coordinators | NT DoH | East Arnhem |

**Other Services**

There are a range of other government and non-government services based in Nhulunbuy that provide regional services and support. These include Family and Children Services, Nutrition, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Maternal Child Health, Environmental Health, Domiciliary Care, Mental Health, etc.

**Part 1 – Details of Organisation Expressing an Interest**

| 1. **Your Organisation’s Details** | |
| --- | --- |
| Legal/registered entity name | enter legal entity name |
| Business name (e.g. trading name) | enter business name |
| Australian Business Number (ABN) | enter ABN |
| Australian Company Number (ACN) | enter ACN |
| Incorporation Number | enter incorporation no. |
| State/Territory select state |
| Are you registered for GST? | Yes  No |
| Registered business street address | enter business street address |
| Business postal address | enter business postal address |
| Business telephone | enter business telephone |
| Business email address | enter business email address |
| Business web address (if applicable) | enter business web address |

| 1. **Your Organisation’s Description** | |
| --- | --- |
| What type of entity is your organisation? | Incorporated Association  Incorporated Cooperative  Aboriginal Corporation  Australian Private Company  Australian Public Company  Organisation established through a specific piece of Commonwealth or State/Territory legislation  Local Government  State / Territory Government  Partnership  Trustee on behalf of a Trust  None of the above (please specify)  specify entity type here |

**Part 2 – Expression of Interest criteria**

**Please limit responses to 1000 words per criteria as any information beyond this limit may not be considered when being assessed.**

1. **Demonstrated experience in consulting with the local community about its aged care needs including examples of how your organisation has established links with other services in the community and the outcomes achieved for care recipients.**

| enter details of experience |
| --- |

1. **Demonstrated experience in developing, delivering, managing and monitoring an aged care service to achieve positive outcomes for care recipients.**

| enter details of experience |
| --- |

1. **Describe your experience in delivering and managing capital works projects specifically for aged care services, including financial and design management processes.**

| enter details of experience |
| --- |

1. **Demonstrated ability to meet regulatory and legislative requirements.**

| enter details |
| --- |

1. **Demonstrated ability to deliver services in remote locations which are sensitive to the needs of the local Indigenous community.**

| enter details |
| --- |

**Part 3 – CONTACT DETAILS AND DELARATION**

| 1. **Nominate two contact people for the legal entity for this expression of interest** | **Preferred Contact**  Title: select title | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| First name: enter first name | |
| Last name: enter last name | |
| Position in organisation: enter position | |
| Telephone: enter telephone no. | Mobile: enter mobile no. |
| Email address: enter email address | |
| **Alternate Contact**  Title: select title | |
| First name: enter first name | |
| Last name: enter last name | |
| Position in organisation: enter position | |
| Telephone: enter telephone no. | Mobile: enter mobile no. |
| Email address: enter email address | |

1. **Declaration**

**Please read and complete the following declaration.**

I declare that:

* The information contained in this form is true and correct;
* I have read, understood and agree to abide by the **Programme Guidelines**;
* I understand that incomplete forms may **not** be considered;
* If and where any personal details of a third party are included, the third party has been made aware of, and given permission for those details to appear in this expression of interest.

**Describe any conflicts of interest that may occur from submitting this expression of interest.**

| enter any conflicts |
| --- |

**I understand and agree to the declaration above.**

**I acknowledge that giving false or misleading information to DSS is a serious offence under Section 137.1 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth).***

| Full name of Authorised Officer | Position of Authorised Officer | Date |
| --- | --- | --- |
| enter name | select position | dd/mm/yyyy |

1. **Please provide an estimate of the time taken to complete this Expression of Interest Form, including:**

* Actual time spent reading the guidelines, instructions and questions,
* Time spent by all employees in collecting and providing the information, and
* Time spent completing all question in the Form.

| Hours | enter hours | Minutes | enter minutes |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |

**Part 4 – ATTACHMENTS**

Please attach letters of support from the community that are directly relevant to this Expression of Interest.

It is recommended attachments be limited to a total of 10 pages (e.g. 10 attachments of 1 page per attachment or 1 attachment of 10 pages). If applicable, please list attachments below. You may add extra rows if required.