Alice Springs
National Aboriginal Art Gallery and
New home for Rugby League and Rugby Union

Department of Tourism and Culture
THE NTG IS INVESTING IN ALICE SPRINGS’ FUTURE

• $12 million to build a new Red Centre Adventure Ride
• $3 million to preserve and enhance the Hermannsburg Historical Precinct
• $5.5 million to construct urban public housing
• $4.5 million to construct a security fence at the prison
• $6.2 million capital grant to the ASTC to develop and enhance sporting infrastructure
• $5 million over three years for a Centre of Excellence in Renewable Energy at the Desert Knowledge Precinct
• $9.1 million to upgrade Ross Park Primary School, Acacia Hill School and the Centralian Middle School
• $10 million to refurbish the Alice Springs Court
• $5 million to build cooling and shading infrastructure
• $5 million towards community safety and crime prevention in the CBD
• $17.6 million in hospital upgrades
AND THE NTG IS COMMITTED TO ALICE SPRINGS AS AUSTRALIA’S INLAND CAPITAL

- $100 million investment into linking and enhancing community art galleries, museums and keeping places with an Arts Trail that will run the length and breadth of the Territory. This includes:
  - $50 million down-payment towards the National Aboriginal Art Gallery in Alice Springs
  - $30 million for gallery extensions in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Arnhem Land
  - $20 million towards a National Indigenous Cultural Centre
- Investment in a new home for rugby league and rugby union
- $5 million to create an adventure water splash and play area in the CBD
- $20 million to rejuvenate the Alice Springs Town Centre
- $4.5 million to establish an Alcoota Megafauna Fossil Exhibition in the Mall
- Develop a seniors’ lifestyle village
- New tourism and commercial development project

The NTG proposes to partner with the ASTC and local stakeholders to develop a master plan incorporating these projects and other local priorities in a shared plan for Alice Springs as Australia’s Inland Capital.
VISION FOR THE NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ART GALLERY

An important major project for Australia, the National Aboriginal Art Gallery will enhance Alice Springs’ reputation as the Inland Capital of Australia.

• The NTG has announced its preferred site for the National Aboriginal Art Gallery is the Anzac Hill Precinct, combining the Anzac Oval and the old school sites.
• The Gallery will be a globally significant, national cultural institution that will attract thousands of visitors, create hundreds of construction jobs, and create and support ongoing local jobs.
• The Gallery will be a master planned site. It will showcase and celebrate a globally significant, Australia-wide art collection from the oldest continuous culture which will be brought together under one roof in Alice Springs - the geographical heart of Australia.
• This major investment in Alice Springs’ artistic and cultural offerings is vital to support the local tourism industry and the local economy.
• It will bring significant business and employment opportunities, particularly for Aboriginal Territorians, both in the construction phase and in the ongoing operation and management.
• A project of this magnitude in the Alice Springs CBD, has already returned significant investment enquiries.
Minimum site requirements for the Gallery Precinct

While many site options were looked at, the determining factors for identification of suitable sites included, as informed by the Steering Committee and technical/expert advice:

- size (a minimum of 40,000m²), including 10,000m² carparking and 10,000m² floor space
- sense of place
- connection to the landscape
- accessibility
- taking into account heritage, environmental and cultural considerations
- green space with community use to activate the precinct
- a sense of arrival

The most suitable potential options for the Art Gallery were the Anzac Hill Precinct and the Desert Park.
CONSULTATION TO DATE

The NTG, in making its decision on a preferred site, considered the wide range of feedback and technical information provided. Consultation occurred through a number of ways:

• National Aboriginal Art Gallery Steering Committee consultation
• Extensive media promoting the opportunity for people to have their say
• A pop-up stall in the CBD was hosted over a two week period, in the Mall, Yeperenye Shopping Centre, Alice Plaza and the Todd Mall markets.
• An online portal (649 responses received) - this was high level consultation. The consultation provided limited information about the project itself, and site considerations
• Presentation of a formal position paper (Tourism Central Australia)
• Departmental officers met with local stakeholder groups and organisations, including Aboriginal Organisations, the Mayor and CEO of ASTC
• Ministers and MLAs had discussions with local constituents and local stakeholders.
• National Indigenous Cultural Centre consultation led by Nganampa Corporation
CHOOSING THE PREFERRED SITE

The Anzac Hill Precinct is the Government's preferred location on the balance of all considerations.

- Located within walking distance of the Alice Springs CBD
- The site supports CBD revitalisation which will catalyze additional private sector investment within the CBD helping to activate it, and provide additional business and job opportunities
- It is of sufficient size
- It facilitates development of an indoor-outdoor arts and cultural precinct integrated with the landscape
- The site retains ample green space for community access and use
- A master planned precinct connecting the CBD with an international standard ‘sense of arrival’ to the gallery
- It will feature environmentally and culturally sensitive design
- Sacred site considerations and connection to the natural landscape

Now that a preferred site has been identified, we can commence more detailed consultation with stakeholders, planning and design work.
NTG COMMITMENTS TO THE ALICE SPRINGS COMMUNITY

• **Green Space will be preserved and conserved** - we will provide green space at the Anzac Hill Precinct for family use, events and festivals including the Masters Games’ ceremonies, Territory Day, concert and community events such as the Carols by Candlelight program. Any reduction in conservation land will be offset by providing other land for conservation purposes. The Anzac Hill Precinct’s rich cultural heritage, sacred sites and history will continue to be respected and honoured. The Totem Theatre, Senior Citizens Association and Youth Centre will remain.

• **A new and better home for rugby league and rugby union** - a new facility will be built with two north-south facing fields, a grandstand, change rooms, coach, media and corporate boxes, catering and hospitality facilities, office space and lighting. The NTG is exploring the best options which are Bradshaw Drive and Centralian Middle School. These options are subject to further studies and native title agreement.

• **More car parking for Alice Springs** – the Anzac Hill Precinct and the final site chosen for the new home of rugby league and rugby union will incorporate car parking numbers and coach drop-off and parking that meet or exceed the numbers required by planning requirements – with a minimum of 10,000 m² of car and coach parking at the Anzac Hill Precinct.

• **Alice Springs Ratepayers will not be financially worse off** – we will ensure the costs for what the NTG is proposing, will not result in any increased financial burden on Alice Springs ratepayers.
NTG COMMITMENTS TO THE ALICE SPRINGS COMMUNITY

• A new home for St Joseph’s Catholic Flexible Learning Centre - St Joseph’s Catholic Flexible Learning Centre (Edmund Rice Education Australia) will have a new home.

• Job and business opportunities for locals – demolition and development will be staged to start providing a pipeline of new local business and job opportunities as soon as possible.

• A new Master Plan for Australia’s Inland Capital – we would like to partner with the ASTC to develop a master plan for the future of Australia’s Inland Capital, which incorporates all the iconic projects that the NTG has already committed to progress, including the:
  i. National Aboriginal Art Gallery  
  ii. National Indigenous Cultural Centre  
  iii. New home for rugby league and rugby union  
  iv. New seniors’ lifestyle village project  
  v. New tourism and commercial development project  
  vi. NTG Projects to revitalise the CBD like the Alcoota Megafauna Exhibition project.

• Local people guiding development and delivery – Alice Springs representatives will be given important guiding roles in the development of all the Inland Capital projects.
A NEW HOME FOR RUGBY

The NTG has committed to working with rugby league and rugby union on relocation options ahead of their 2020-21 or 2021-22 seasons

- The new sporting fields will ensure rugby league and rugby union have a long and prosperous future in Alice Springs.
- The fields could be used by other sporting codes when not in use by rugby.
- The NTG is exploring two sites to build a new home for rugby league and union: a greenfield site on Bradshaw Drive and a site adjoining Centralian Middle School noting site constraints will be fully analysed in determining the final site

Concept only
ARTISTS
IMPRESSION
A NEW HOME FOR RUGBY
NEXT STEPS – NATIONAL ABORIGINAL ART GALLERY

Now that a preferred site has been identified, we can commence more detailed consultations and work to progress both these projects.

- The **Project Implementation Team**, including a Project Director and Curator, is being established in Alice Springs to oversee the delivery of the project on behalf of Government – National recruitment is currently underway
  - Dr Mark Crees commences this week as the Interim Director, Project Implementation Team, National Aboriginal Art Gallery.
- A **Project Control Group** is being established which will report to the Major Projects Sub-Committee of Government and Cabinet Committee
- Arrangements are being put in place to support the project, work through the detail and commence more detailed stakeholder consultations
- A nationally representative **Reference Group** will be established to promote and inform the development of the Gallery. Membership will include Arrernte/Aranda Apmereke artweye and Kwertengerle of Mparntwe and its environs.
A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

• The NTG has offered to enter into an MOU with the ASTC to formalise how we will work together to progress these projects.

• The NTG invites the ASTC to nominate its CEO to be on the Project Control Group and its officers to be on the working groups.

• In the letter to the Council from Government, proposed principles included providing assurance to residents that the intended use of the land is for an arts and cultural precinct that will include the Gallery, as well as a strong commitment to retain green space for community use, including concerts and Masters Games ceremonies.

• The NTG has made additional commitments they could also be included in the MOU.
INLAND CAPITAL COMMITTEE

- The NTG is committed to local stakeholders guiding the development and delivery of its inland capital projects
- The ASTC and NTG have already established the Inland Capital Committee, which if the ASTC agrees, could guide all the NTG inland capital projects
- If ASTC agrees, the vibrant CBD Sub-Committees could be the vehicle
- Should ASTC agree, the Terms of Reference and membership for the sub-committee could be expanded to provide local guidance for development and delivery of all the NTG major projects that impact the future of Alice Springs.

Should the ASTC not agree to using the Inland Capital Committee, then local reference groups will be established for the NTG Inland Capital projects with the Council invited to be a member along with other key local stakeholder group representatives relevant to each project.
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Download a copy of this briefing paper at www.artstrail.nt.gov.au

• To find out more about the National Aboriginal Art Gallery, visit www.artstrail.nt.gov.au or email artstrail@nt.gov.au

• To find out more about the Senior Lifestyle Accommodation and tourism and commercial development project, visit NT Major Projects at www.business.nt.gov.au