

NATIONAL NATIVE TITLE  
TRIBUNAL



## Section 1: Overview, variations and measures

### OVERVIEW

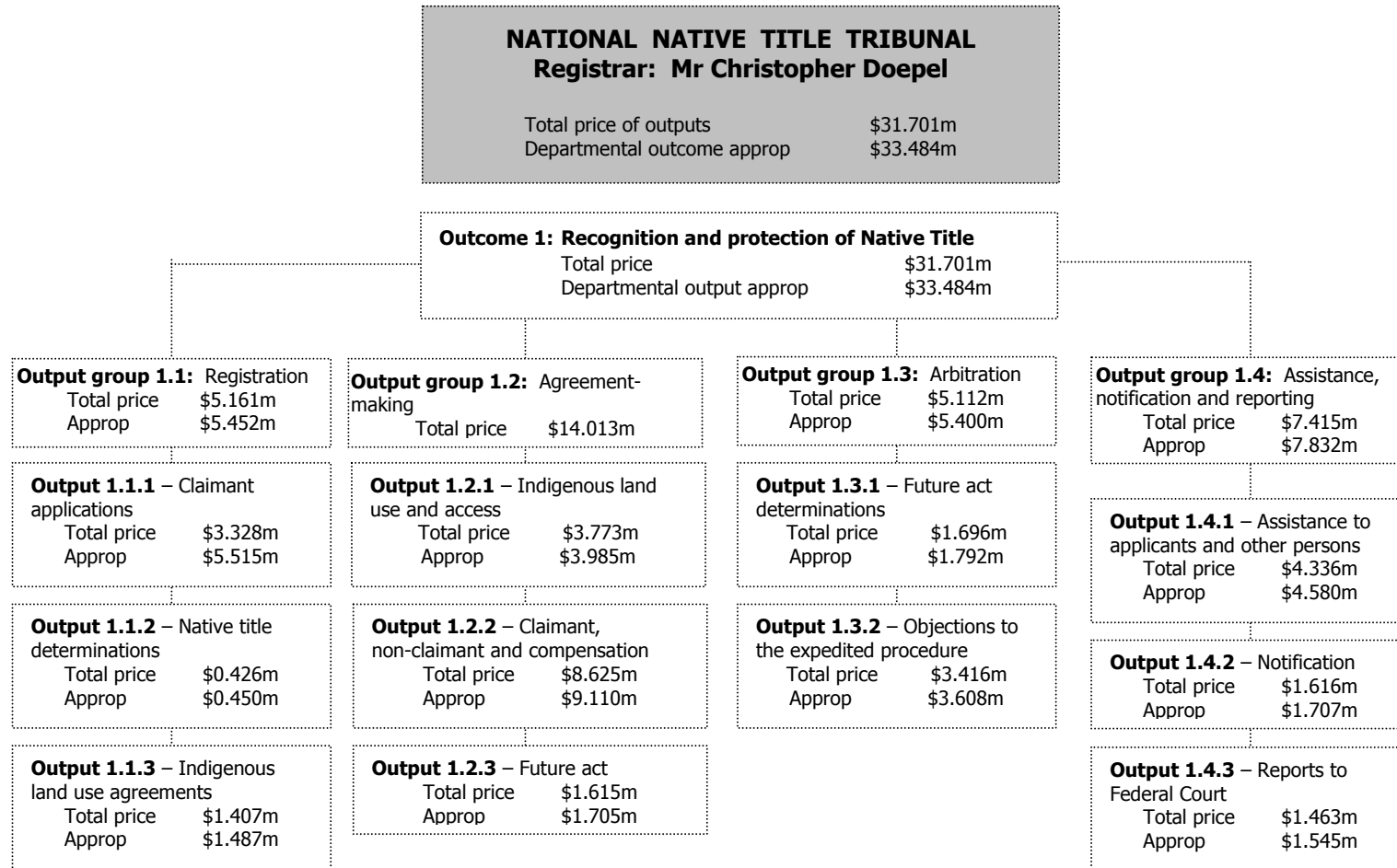
The role of the National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) is to facilitate the recognition and protection of native title in accordance with the requirements of the *Native Title Act 1993*. The NNTT's performance is measured by outputs that are directly derived from the processes and obligations set out in the Act.

The NNTT is a national provider of registration, notification, mediation and arbitration services and related assistance and information for people in the Australian community involved in the resolution of native title issues.

The NNTT applies a stringent registration test to native title applications; mediates native title applications under the supervision of the Federal Court; and assists in new areas of agreement-making in relation to native title. The Act allows for the negotiation and registration of indigenous land use agreements as an alternative to future act processes and for other purposes. The NNTT facilitates these agreements where parties wish to engage its services.

No additional appropriations have been allocated for estimates variations through Additional Estimates. However, revisions to output performance information and descriptions have been made since the 2002-03 Budget. These changes are shown in Section 2. The budgeted financial statement have also been revised.

## Map 2.1: Outcome and output groups



**SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL CHANGES**

The NNTT has revised its forecast activity and output levels downwards, resulting in an expected \$2m surplus for 2002–03. The NNTT has also accumulated \$2m equity from prior years’ operating surpluses. A review of the overall funding requirements for the native title system will be undertaken prior to the 2003–04 budget.

Following a review of IT network services, the NNTT will change from leased to owned computer equipment during 2002–03. This will result in changes to annual capital purchasing, depreciation and non-financial assets as reflected in the revised budgeted financial statements.

Output definitions and prices have been reviewed and amended in some cases. Revised prices are based on actual 2001–02 results as published in the NNTT’s *Annual Report 2001–02*.

**SUMMARY OF STAFFING CHANGES**

**Table 1.4: Average staffing level (ASL)**

	<b>Budget 2002–03</b>	<b>Revised 2002–03</b>	<b>Variation</b>
<b>Outcome 1</b>			
Recognition and protection of Native Title	255	250	(5)
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>(5)</b>

Section 2: Revisions to outcomes and outputs

**OUTCOMES AND OUTPUT GROUPS**

The National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT) has retained its outcome and outputs as stated in the 2002–03 Portfolio Budget Statements. In order to improve the future consistency of information, adjustments have been made to the definitions and performance indicators of some outputs. The revised definitions and performance indicators are set out in Tables 2.1 and 2.2 respectively.

**Registration**

Minor changes have been made to output description wording. Forecast outputs have been revised downwards with a corresponding decrease in expected expenditure.

**Agreement-making**

A minor change has been made to output 1.2.3 description wording and quality indicator. Forecast outputs have been revised downwards with a corresponding decrease in expected expenditure.

**Arbitration**

The description for output 1.3.1 has been redefined and will now be reported by ‘tenement or land acquisition’ to allow for more consistent output costing. This has resulted in an increase in quantity and a decrease in output price but minimal overall change to expenditure.

Output 1.3.2 quality indicator has been corrected to the original standard.

**Assistance, notification and reporting**

Minor changes have been made to output description wording. Forecast outputs have been revised upwards with a corresponding increase in expected expenditure.

**Table 2.1 Description of outputs**

Outputs	Items	Description
<b>Group 1.1: Registration</b>		
1.1.1: Claimant applications	Decisions	Number of registration decisions, including both pass and fail decisions
1.1.2: Native title determinations	Registrations	Number of claimant, non-claimant and compensation determinations registered
1.1.3: Indigenous land use agreements	Decisions	Number of ILUA registration decisions, including both pass and fail decisions
<b>Group 1.2: Agreement-making</b>		
1.2.1: Indigenous land use and access agreements	Agreements	Indigenous land use agreements and other agreements negotiated with the assistance of the NNTT, and completed
1.2.2: Claimant, non-claimant and compensation applications	Agreements	Agreements that resolve or partly resolve the application where the NNTT has assisted
1.2.3: Future Act applications	Agreements	Tribunal mediated agreements between parties that a proposed activity or acquisition may proceed
<b>Group 1.3: Arbitration</b>		
1.3.1: Future act determination applications	Determinations	Decisions (by tenement or land acquisition) made by the NNTT that a proposed act may or may not proceed
1.3.2: Objections to the expedited procedure	Objections	Objections finalised
<b>Group 1.4: Assistance, notification and reporting</b>		
1.4.1: Assistance to applicants and other persons	Events	Research reports for parties in agreement-making, collaborative projects, educational programmes such as seminars and workshops and production of discussion papers, library catalogues, fact sheets, newsletters and other publications.
	Contacts	Telephone discussions, correspondence and media statements providing information and assistance with preparation of applications and agreements, provision of maps, spatial descriptions and searches of the registers.
1.4.2: Notification	Applications advertised	Applications advertised in newspapers and other publications in an area affected by a claimant, non-claimant or compensation application, or application to register an ILUA
	Notification letters	Written notice to individuals or bodies in an area affected by a claimant, non-claimant or compensation application, or an application to register an ILUA
1.4.3: Reports to the Federal Court	Reports	Mediation and status reports provided to the Federal Court

**Table 2.2: Performance information for outcome 1**

<b>Effectiveness — overall achievement of the outcome</b>	
<i>Effectiveness indicators</i>	<i>Measures</i>
Agreements that recognise and protect native title	
Performance information for departmental outputs	
<i>Output description</i>	<i>Performance measure</i>
<b>Output Group 1.1: Registration</b>	
Output 1.1.1: Claimant applications	<i>Price:</i> \$27,736 per decision <i>Quality:</i> 70% decided within two months of receipt from Federal Court <i>Quantity:</i> 120 decisions
Output 1.1.2: Native title determinations	<i>Price:</i> \$21,283 per determination <i>Quality:</i> 80% registered within two working days from receipt of notice <i>Quantity:</i> 20 determinations
Output 1.1.3: Indigenous land use agreements	<i>Price:</i> \$25,589 per decision <i>Quality:</i> 70% registered within six months (including 3 month notification period) where no objection lodged <i>Quantity:</i> 55 processed
<b>Output Group 1.2: Agreement-making</b>	
Output 1.2.1: Indigenous land use and access agreements	<i>Price:</i> \$107,794 per agreement <i>Quality:</i> Level of client satisfaction <i>Quantity:</i> 35 agreements
Output 1.2.2: Claimant, non-claimant and compensation applications	<i>Price:</i> \$86,249 per agreement <i>Quality:</i> Level of client satisfaction <i>Quantity:</i> 100 agreements
Output 1.2.3: Future act applications	<i>Price:</i> \$26,913 per mediation <i>Quality:</i> 70% of mediations concluded within six months <i>Quantity:</i> 60 mediations
<b>Output Group 1.3: Arbitration</b>	
Output 1.3.1: Future act determination applications	<i>Price:</i> \$18,850 per determination <i>Quality:</i> 70% determined within six months from application <i>Quantity:</i> 90 determinations
Output 1.3.2: Objections to the expedited procedure	<i>Price:</i> \$3,416 per objection finalised <i>Quality:</i> 80% determined within six months from application <i>Quantity:</i> 1000 objections processed
<b>Output Group 1.4: Assistance, notification and reporting</b>	
Output 1.4.1: Assistance to applicants and other persons	<i>Price:</i> \$6,230 per event; \$154 per contact <i>Quality:</i> Level of client satisfaction <i>Quantity:</i> 350 events; 14,000 contacts
Output 1.4.2: Notification	<i>Price:</i> \$6,011 per application advertised; \$54 per notification letter <i>Quality:</i> Renotification (full or partial) necessary in less than 5% of applications <i>Quantity:</i> 100 applications advertised; 18,800 notification letters
Output 1.4.3: Reports to Federal Court	<i>Price:</i> \$1,784 per report <i>Quality:</i> 95% provided within timeframe set by Federal Court <i>Quantity:</i> 820 mediation and status reports

## Section 3: Budgeted Financial Statements

**Table 3.1: Budgeted Departmental Statement of Financial Performance for the period ended 30 June**

	Actual 2001–02 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2002–03 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2003–04 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2004–05 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2005–06 \$'000
<b>Revenues from ordinary activities</b>					<b>Note 1</b>
Revenues from government	28,493	33,484	33,516	32,386	22,229
Sales of goods and services	172	150	150	150	150
Interest	120	120	120	120	120
Other	13	13	14	14	14
<b>Total revenues from ordinary activities</b>	<b>28,830</b>	<b>33,767</b>	<b>33,800</b>	<b>32,670</b>	<b>22,513</b>
<b>Expenses from ordinary activities (excluding borrowing costs expense)</b>					
Employees	16,607	18,410	19,662	19,116	18,084
Suppliers	11,053	12,266	13,100	12,737	12,050
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation and amortisation	764	878	901	706	591
Write-down of assets	1	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenses from ordinary activities (excluding borrowing costs expense)</b>	<b>28,425</b>	<b>31,554</b>	<b>33,663</b>	<b>32,558</b>	<b>30,725</b>
<b>Net surplus or (deficit) from ordinary activities</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>2,213</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>(8,212)</b>
Gain or loss on extraordinary items	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net surplus or (deficit)</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>2,213</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>(8,212)</b>
Capital use charge and dividends	(220)	(150)	(60)	(60)	(60)
<b>Net surplus or (deficit) after capital use charge</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>2,063</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>(8,272)</b>

Note 1: The appropriation for the NNTT in 2005–06 returns to its pre 2000 base amount pending the outcome of a review of the overall resourcing for the native title system. The expense estimates shown are based on workload forecasts for 2005–06.

Table 3.2: Budgeted Departmental Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June

	Actual 2001–02 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2002–03 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2003–04 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2004–05 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2005–06 \$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Financial assets</b>					
Cash	3,280	5,419	5,207	5,480	(2,676)
Receivables	153	150	150	150	150
Accrued revenues	5	30	30	30	30
<b>Total financial assets</b>	<b>3,620</b>	<b>5,599</b>	<b>5,387</b>	<b>5,660</b>	<b>(2,496)</b>
<b>Non-financial assets</b>					
Land and buildings	968	859	508	452	511
Infrastructure, plant and equipment	456	849	949	949	949
Intangibles	12	-	-	-	-
Other	801	800	810	800	800
<b>Total non-financial assets</b>	<b>2,237</b>	<b>2,508</b>	<b>2,267</b>	<b>2,211</b>	<b>2,260</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>5,857</b>	<b>8,107</b>	<b>7,654</b>	<b>7,871</b>	<b>(236)</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Provisions and payables</b>					
Employees	3,153	3,323	2,793	2,963	3,133
Suppliers	413	430	430	425	420
<b>Total provisions and payables</b>	<b>3,566</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>3,223</b>	<b>3,388</b>	<b>3,553</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>3,566</b>	<b>3,753</b>	<b>3,223</b>	<b>3,388</b>	<b>3,553</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>					
Capital	2,415	2,415	2,415	2,415	2,415
Accumulated surpluses or deficits	(124)	1,939	2,016	2,068	(6,204)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>4,354</b>	<b>4,431</b>	<b>4,483</b>	<b>(3,789)</b>
<b>Liabilities and equity</b>	<b>5,857</b>	<b>8,107</b>	<b>7,654</b>	<b>7,871</b>	<b>(236)</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>2,153</b>	<b>2,258</b>	<b>1,966</b>	<b>2,055</b>	<b>2,143</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>	<b>1,413</b>	<b>1,495</b>	<b>1,257</b>	<b>1,333</b>	<b>1,410</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>4,421</b>	<b>6,399</b>	<b>6,197</b>	<b>6,470</b>	<b>6,598</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>1,401</b>	<b>1,460</b>

**Table 3.3: Budgeted Departmental Statement of Cash Flows for the period ended 30 June**

	Estimated Actual 2001–02 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2002–03 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2003–04 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2004–05 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2005–06 \$'000
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>					<b>Note 1</b>
<b>Cash received</b>					
Appropriations for outputs	28,493	33,484	33,516	32,386	22,229
Sales of goods and services	183	153	150	150	150
Interest	155	95	120	120	120
Other (GST)	1,205	1,205	1,310	1,273	1,203
<b>Total cash received</b>	<b>30,036</b>	<b>34,937</b>	<b>35,096</b>	<b>33,929</b>	<b>23,702</b>
<b>Cash used</b>					
Employees	16,391	18,240	20,192	18,946	17,914
Suppliers	11,989	13,258	14,406	14,000	13,234
<b>Total cash used</b>	<b>28,380</b>	<b>31,498</b>	<b>34,597</b>	<b>32,946</b>	<b>31,148</b>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>3,439</b>	<b>498</b>	<b>983</b>	<b>(7,446)</b>
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash used</b>					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	892	1,150	650	650	650
<b>Total cash used</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>650</b>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>(892)</b>	<b>(1,150)</b>	<b>(650)</b>	<b>(650)</b>	<b>(650)</b>
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Cash used</b>					
Capital use and dividends paid	220	150	60	60	60
<b>Total cash used</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	<b>(220)</b>	<b>(150)</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>(60)</b>	<b>(60)</b>
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>	<b>544</b>	<b>2,139</b>	<b>(212)</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>(8,156)</b>
Cash at the beginning of the reporting period	2,736	3,280	5,419	5,207	5,480
<b>Cash at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b>3,280</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>5,207</b>	<b>5,480</b>	<b>(2,676)</b>

**Table 3.4: Departmental Capital Budget Statement**

	Estimated Actual 2001–02 \$'000	Budget Estimate 2002–03 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2003–04 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2004–05 \$'000	Forward Estimate 2005–06 \$'000
<b>CAPITAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>					
Total equity injections	-	-	-	-	-
Total loans	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Represented by:</b>					
Purchase of non-financial assets	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>PURCHASE OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>					
Funded by capital appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Funded internally by departmental resources	694	1,150	650	650	650
<b>Total</b>	<b>694</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>650</b>

**Table 3.5: Departmental Non-financial Assets — Summary of Movement (Budget Year 2002–03)**

	Land	Buildings	Total land and buildings	Other infrastructure plant and equipment	Total infrastructure plant and equipment	Intangibles	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at the start of year	-	968	968	456	456	12	1,436
Additions	-	400	400	750	750	-	1,150
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation increments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recoverable amount write-downs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net transfers free of charge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation/amortisation expenses	-	509	509	357	357	12	878
Write-off of assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount at the end of year	-	859	859	849	849	-	1,708
<b>Total Additions</b>							
Self funded	-	400	400	750	750	-	1,150
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	<b>400</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>750</b>	<b>750</b>	-	<b>1,150</b>

Note: 'Other infrastructure, plant and equipment' has increased Additions due to the purchase of computer equipment that was previously provided through a contracted IT network service provider. Depreciation/amortisation has also been adjusted for this increase.

## APPENDIX 1

## Receipts from Independent Sources

	<b>Budget Estimate 2002-03 \$'000</b>	<b>Revised Estimate 2002-03 \$'000</b>
<b>DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE</b>		
Sales of goods and services	80	150
Interest	120	120
Resources received free of charge	13	13
<b>Total Non-Appropriation Departmental Revenue</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>283</b>