

Appendix 10

Networking the Nation Board Annual Report



Senator the Hon Richard Alston
Minister for Communications,
Information Technology and the Arts
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

In accordance with the terms of appointment of the members of the Board for the Networking the Nation (NTN) program, I submit the annual report of the Board for the 2001-2002 financial year.

A total of \$68.6 million was committed through the NTN program in the period under review. The financial statements detailing this commitment is included in the Department of Communication, Information Technology and the Arts 2001-2002 Annual Report and has been audited by the Australian National Audit Office.

As the funding for the NTN General Fund, Remote and Isolated Islands and the Local Government Fund has almost been completed, the Board would like to express their appreciation for the work of the Secretariat. The Board notes that more than half of the approved projects are being implemented and we look forward to the year ahead as regional communities continue to benefit from improvements in regional telecommunications infrastructure and services. The projects have been partly funded by NTN and partly by local support from individuals, organisations and communities. The Board would like to express their support to these regional communities and their projects.

Yours sincerely

The Rt Hon JD Anthony
Chair
NTN Board

2 August 2002



PHONE: 1800 674 058 FAX: (02) 6271 1078 POSTAL: GPO Box 2154, Canberra ACT 2601
EMAIL: ntn@mail@dcita.gov.au WEBSITE: www.dcita.gov.au/ntn.html

1. History of the Networking the Nation Program

The objective of the Networking the Nation (NTN) Program is to assist the economic and social development of rural Australia by funding projects which:

- enhance telecommunications infrastructure and services;
- increase access to, and promote use of, services available through telecommunications networks; and
- reduce disparities in access to such services and facilities.

The Program was allocated a total of \$250 million funding over five years beginning in 1997–98. The \$250 million has been apportioned so that the share each State receives is in direct relation to the proportion of that State's population that resides outside the State's capital city.

In 1999, the Government announced an increase of \$174 million in NTN funding from the Social Bonus resulting from the sale of a further 16 per cent of Telstra. Of this:

- \$70 million was allocated to the Building Additional Rural Networks (BARN) initiative to promote ongoing, sustainable improvements in regional telecommunications services;
- \$45 million was allocated to the Local Government Fund which will assist local government authorities in regional Australia to provide online access to information and services including the Internet;
- \$36 million was allocated to stimulate Internet service delivery in regional and rural Australia;
- \$20 million was allocated to improve telecommunications access for remote islands communities; and
- \$3 million was allocated for extended mobile telephone coverage —\$1 million each in Western Australia, South Australia and Tasmania.

A small administrative component deducted from the total allocations has been used for the support of the NTN Board and Secretariat.

Two of these funds (BARN and Local Government) have been subdivided into State/Territory allocations:

- BARN—\$10 million is being provided to each State, with a further \$10 million to be divided between the Territories.
- Local Government Fund—\$6 million is being provided to each State with \$3 million held in a national pool. An additional \$6 million will be divided between the Territories.

In the case of the Rural Internet Access Fund, arrangements have changed because a commercial offering from Telstra has delivered the outcomes the Fund was aiming to achieve. Consequently, in the 2001–02 Budget, the Government announced that it would reallocate funds to fund telecommunications and Internet initiatives as part of the Government's response to the Telecommunications Service Inquiry. A total of \$21 million was reallocated, \$6 million of the original funding was allocated to the Internet Assistance Program, a joint venture with Telstra to provide better quality and faster access to dial-up Internet services. In the 2002–03 Budget the unspent residual funds were declared as savings.

2. Administration of the program

2.1 The NTN Board

NTN funding decisions are made by an independent Board appointed by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. The Board is responsible for determining the activities and projects to be funded; the funding complies with the program guidelines, and falls within the overall State and Territory funding limits. The Minister is not involved in decisions on individual projects.

Board members are:

- The Rt Hon Doug Anthony (Chair)
- Professor Gerry Anderson, Adjunct Professor University of Ballarat in Information Technology and Business Applications
- Mrs Lindsay MacDonald, a Queensland wool grower and telecommunications activist
- Ms Johanna Plante, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Communications Industry Forum Limited
- Ms Eleanor Scholz, manager of a regional South Australian telecentre

The Terms of Reference for the Board are at Annex A.

2.2 The NTN Secretariat

The NTN Secretariat is based within the Commonwealth Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

The Secretariat provides advice and guidance to applicants developing proposals, assists the Board by assessing applications, administers the deeds of agreement, monitors the progress of funded projects and provides guidance to project managers. Secretariat staff also promote the program and discuss with interested parties the aims and potential benefits of the program to their communities.

2.3 General processes

The NTN program operates under guidelines approved by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts. In addition to the guidelines, the NTN Board has issued Fact Sheets describing its funding priorities, determined after the Board's consideration of the program guidelines and based on its experience with the program. Applicants are able to access full information about the Program online, including program guidelines and Fact Sheets.

In 2000, the Program introduced an online grants application and project management facility. This enabled applicants to complete a registration form, to have their eligibility confirmed by the Secretariat, and then proceed to submit their application all online via a unique identifier and

password. If applicants do not have Internet access, the Secretariat provides application forms and other material on floppy disk by request.

Applicants without access to a computer are provided with a hard copy application form and hard copies of other material. Enquiries about the program and application process can be directed to the NTN Secretariat on the toll-free telephone number, 1800 674 058 or emailed to ntn.mail@dcita.gov.au. The online facility is also used by the funding recipients for all Program administration.

2.4 State Advisory Groups/State contacts

Each State, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory has established an Advisory Group to assist the Board in its deliberations. These groups meet before each Board meeting and provide information and advice on applications in relation to State policies and priorities for telecommunications and information technology. The State Advisory Groups provide valuable advice to the Board, although final decision making rests with the Board.

In addition to the State Advisory Groups, each State, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory has a NTN Coordinator to provide a point of contact for applicants and prospective applicants within that State/Territory. All prospective applicants are urged to contact their respective State/Territory Coordinator to establish whether their project is consistent with the State Government telecommunications and information technology objectives and priorities. The Coordinator can also provide information regarding similar projects or place applicants in contact with other projects within a specific region.

2.5 Other sources of advice

Where necessary, technical and financial consultants are utilised to provide analysis of more complex applications. This analysis forms part of the Board's assessment.

Relevant Commonwealth Government departments and agencies are also regularly consulted by the Secretariat. They provide a source of advice on the merits of project applications, provisions of financial and technical advice and other sources of Commonwealth funding and expertise.

Assistance has been provided by the following agencies:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Commission (ATSIC)
- Attorney Generals Department (AGs)
- Australian Trade Commission (AUSTRADE)
- Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australia (AFFA)
- Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST)
- Department of Family and Community Services (FACS)
- Department of Health and Aging (DHA)
- Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources (DITR)
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C)
- Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTRS)
- National Office for the Information Economy (NOIE)
- Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA)

The NTN Secretariat liaises with the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTRS) to avoid duplication with the Rural Transaction Centre (RTC) and Regional Solutions programs and to maximise opportunities for community projects to work together to achieve the most effective outcomes.

NTN provides DOTRS with a copy of all relevant applications for funding. DOTRS has the opportunity to comment on how or whether the proposed project would duplicate funded

or proposed projects (through either RTC or Regional Solutions) and to identify opportunities for projects to work together to achieve better outcomes for the community. Conversely, DOTRS provides all relevant applications for funding to allow NTN to comment on RTC and Regional Solutions applications.

2.6 Promoting the Program

The *New Connections* website (www.newconnections.gov.au) has been developed and coordinated by the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts and is the Online Council's portal for regional communications information. (The Online Council is the peak ministerial forum across governments for consultation on and coordination of the information economy.) All State and Territory governments participate in the New Connections initiative. Networking the Nation and other government projects are available on the new connections website and information about new projects is being added on an ongoing basis. Projects are described in text and interactive maps are available via the site's Online Mapping facility.

3. Program outcomes

3.1 Expenditures

Eleven major funding rounds have been conducted to the end of June 2002. To date, the Board has approved 775 projects and provided approximately \$385 million in funding assistance for these projects.

Almost all the funds administered by the NTN Board have now been committed. The only program with significant funds remaining to be allocated is the Building Additional Rural Networks (BARN) with approximately \$35 million.

To date, a small number of projects have been concluded. The majority are still to be fully implemented. Nevertheless, the Program is already demonstrating that collaborative projects focusing on meeting the needs identified by regional people can produce very significant benefits for rural communities.

In addition to NTN Funds, regional communities, organisations, not-for-profit groups and local governments have provided funds either in cash or in-kind assistance to enable these projects to be implemented. The assistance provided by volunteers e.g. in acting as IT trainers, libraries and local governments providing project management expertise and community organisations prepared to accept the responsibility for implementing these projects, is enhancing the delivery of regional telecommunications.

Information identifying projects approved by the Board over the life of the program is available on the Departmental website at www.dcita.gov.au.

A number of NTN funded projects have received awards, some of which include:

- National Award for Innovation in Local Government: Coorong District Council, South Australia.
- Commercial Bravery Category—2001 Australian Financial Review Magazine’s Sponsorship Award – Burnett Inland Information and Technology Strategy (BIITS) project (Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation) and Tarong Energy and Burnett.net.au, Queensland.
- Queensland Rural Women’s Network’s BridgIT Project was listed as one of 19 projects/ businesses out of 200 to represent Australia at the International Asia-Pacific Information Communications Technology Awards in Kuala Lumpur in September 2001.
- Central Highlands/Wimmera Region Online Project—Victorian Government 2002 Women in Online Technology—awarded to Carol Hillsdon for travelling trainer work teaching people how to use and benefit from the Internet.

There have been a number of NTN projects that have been presented as case studies at overseas telecommunications forums, such as the Albany GateWAY Cooperative Limited which was the only geographically based community, regional web portal invited to present at the 5th International Virtual Communities Conference in Westminster London on the 17–18 June 2002. This project has generated a significant amount of interest from overseas forums.

3.2 General Fund

To date, a wide range of projects have been assisted via funding from the General Fund. The main funding areas have been:

(i) Mobile telephony projects

Following the 11th funding round (May 2002), NTN has allocated \$40.5 million to 109 mobile phone projects. Mobile phone coverage has been provided to many locations that have never before had such a service. Funding has been approved to allow a total of 222 base stations and 53 repeater stations to be installed.

The provision of these mobile telephony services has resulted in the establishment of networks and infrastructure that address major telecommunications needs, provide economic and social benefits to businesses, local communities and tourists, assist with traveller safety into the outback regions of Australia, and cater to the needs of emergency services.

(ii) Telecentres and public Internet access points

Across Australia NTN has funded over 1 600 telecentres and public Internet access facilities. These facilities allow people to access the Internet, for example, in stand-alone Internet terminals in libraries, Internet kiosks and telecentres. The break down by State and Territory is:

NSW	253
VIC	352
QLD	441
WA	201
SA	125
TAS	110
NT	158
Christmas Island	1

(iii) Videoconferencing

Through the NTN Program, many regional communities across Australia have recognised the real benefits and the difference that videoconferencing (VC) facilities can make to their business and personal lives. They have provided widespread benefits by significantly reducing the tyranny of distance, in areas such as time, money and personal safety. Many people in remote areas now can have instant access to educational, medical and legal services that were previously only easily accessible in the major population centres.

VC units have generally been placed in locations such as telecentres, which allow easy community access. All sectors of the community have been able to utilise these facilities including the business sector undertaking job interviews, doctors undertaking professional training, and children participating in distance learning and music lessons.

3.3 Local Government Fund

Local government bodies across Australia are actively pursuing the delivery of their services online under coordinated statewide strategies supported through the Local Government Fund.

Funded projects aim to extend and enhance services delivered by Councils to their communities and for Councils to realise productivity gains through online services delivery and resource sharing. The program is assisting Councils to make the transition to an online services environment by providing relevant business skills, technical tools and applications. Collaboration among Councils and compatibility of systems are priorities.

In practice, Council customers will be able to access information and services, make inquiries and pay accounts over the Internet from anywhere, any hour and any day. The Councils will be able to improve the level and range of services provided for their community in a cost effective manner.

3.4 Building Additional Rural Networks (BARN)

BARN is providing \$70 million in funding over five years to support the development of new networks, new network services and new products with an emphasis on the adoption of innovative solutions and leading edge technologies.

One of the Program's goals is to promote innovative solutions for service delivery and provide scope for new commercial entrants to offer services to regional Australia and thereby enhance competition in these areas. Experience with this approach has varied (and it is too early to judge its ultimate success or not). For example, funding has recently been provided for telecommunications infrastructure in the Coorong region of South Australia and this project is progressing positively. On the other hand, the 'Green Phone' project ended in failure as the entity was forced into liquidation in December 2001.

Other regional telcos supported via BARN are in their infancy including Southern Phone. This project will significantly reduce long distance telephone cost, for all residents in south east New South Wales and make broadband more accessible and affordable for larger users, such as the education and health sectors, with flow-on benefits across the region.

As a result of Green Phone failure, the NTN Board commissioned KPMG to review the NTN Secretariat processes. KPMG stated that nothing had come to their attention during the course of their review which would suggest that the NTN Secretariat were not acting in good faith in connection with the grant. However, KPMG considered that the NTN application and assessment processes as applied to Green Phone could have been improved through more robust project risk assessment, improving the value of the independent financial advice provided to the Secretariat, development of Funding Deeds specifically targeted to the purpose of the project and seriously re-examining the risks associated in providing the majority of funding up front. The Secretariat is implementing all the recommendations contained in the KPMG report.

3.5 Remote and Isolated Islands

The Remote and Isolated Islands Fund is governed by the *Telstra (Further Dilution of Public Ownership) Act 1999*. The Act requires these funds to be paid no later than 30 June 2003. Following the May 2002 Board meeting the funds have almost all been committed. Projects supported include mobile phone coverage for Thursday Island and Fraser Island, telehealth projects on Flinders and Barren Islands as well as in the Torres Strait Islands and projects to provide improved telecommunications throughout the Mornington Islands.

4. Activities during 2001–02

4.1 Board meetings

The dates of Board meetings or teleconferences convened during 2001–02 were as follows:

- 25–26 September 2001 (major funding meeting);
- 21 December 2001 (teleconference);
- 12 March 2002 (State/Territory Presentations);
- 13 March 2002 (out-of-session Board meeting); and
- 22–23 May 2002 (major funding meeting).

4.2 Board state visit and attendance at conferences

During the year the NTN Board members attended a number of project launches, regional conferences and other events including:

Central Queensland Local Government Managers Australia (CQLGMA) Annual Branch Conference. Blackall Cultural Centre, Blackall. Friday 1 March 2002.

Launch of the Stanthorpe Shire Council's new website (launched by Senator The Hon Ron Boswell) 18 April 2002—Speaker at the Stanthorpe Shire Council's NTN Forum 19 April 2002

Legal Aid Queensland's Women's Justice Network Site Coordinator's Workshop — Stanthorpe 18 April 2002

SA Community Telecentre Co-ordinators Conference, Adelaide
10 April 2002.

The NTN Board visited Far North Queensland from 26–31 August 2001. The Board travelled throughout the Cape York Peninsula and the Gulf Country to inspect a number of NTN funded projects (and proposed sites for projects) in Laura, Lockhart River, Weipa, Mornington Island and Burketown.

The Board met with representatives of the Outback Digital Network Balkanu project at Lockhart River to discuss the forthcoming rollout of the project throughout the Cape York Peninsula. This community also demonstrated the benefits being delivered through video-conferencing equipment installed at the Lockhart State School and how it assists indigenous children in boarding schools to maintain contact with their families.

The Chair of the Board, the Rt Hon Doug Anthony, launched the Remote Far North Queensland IT Access Project, a major initiative which provides local call Internet access, public Internet access facilities and training to ten remote communities throughout the region. During the visit the Board inspected equipment provided through this project at Laura, Burketown and Mornington Island and the public Access computers at Weipa Library.

While in Burketown, the Board visited an NTN funded videoconferencing site operated by Queensland Health through the Networking North Queensland project. They participated in a three-way videoconferencing link with Queensland Health (Townsville) and the NTN funded, Women's Justice Network (Kingaroy), to hear about the health and legal services delivered through these networks and the benefits to rural and remote communities.

The Queensland NTN State Coordinator (Queensland State Government) accompanied the Board. The Board met with the Hon Paul Lucas, Minister for Innovation and the Information Economy, Queensland State Government, in Brisbane.

4.3 Board approvals

In 2001–02 the Board approved \$68 663 005 in funding for 153 projects and 39 variations to existing projects across Australia. A list of projects approved during 2001–02 is provided at **Annex B**; **Annex C** identifies applications and variations received, and funding approvals by State and Territory for 2001–02; **Annex D** summarises approvals for 2001–02 by fund and by State and Territory; **Annex E** provides information on expenditure by Fund and by State and Territory for 2001–02.

4.4 Major projects approved during 2001–02 financial year

PYCom (Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Communications)—\$2 093 631. This project is to provide a suite of telecommunications services for the communities and homelands of the Anangu Pitjantjatjara (AP) lands and surrounding regions, covering around 100 000 square kilometres across northern South Australia and southern Northern Territory. It will provide a comprehensive response to identified needs including public Internet access, Internet portal and websites, videoconferencing, training and mobile radio services.

The related I-Connect project will be developed by **Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Media (PY Media)** to assist with appropriate connections, capital and associated costs incurred to access telephone services in remote communities in southern Northern Territory, South Australia and the Ngaanyatjarra Lands in central west Western Australia.

Funding of \$10 762 642 has been provided to **Outback Digital Network** to provide robust high bandwidth capable services for 14 very remote communities in the Northern Territory, a telecentre and up to 384kbps video-conferencing for Beagle Bay, Bidyadanga, Djarindjin and One Arm Point near Broome in Western Australia and videoconferencing for 23 Northern Territory communities, including Arnhem Land, Tiwi Islands, Jabiru and Groote Eylandt, to help overcome isolation and enhance access to online services.

The New South Wales Local Government and Shires Associations (LGSA) have been granted \$4.6 million under the New South Wales Local Government Fund to enhance the online delivery

of services and information by councils to their communities. The project will provide councils with the capacity to deliver online, ten high priority and 15 medium priority services as well as geo-spatial and e-procurement initiatives. The project builds on and includes some funding rollover from earlier NTN-funded projects managed by the LGSA.

The New South Wales Office of Information Technology was previously granted funding over \$1.3 million for a suite of initiatives to enhance the sustainability and service delivery capacity of existing telecentres throughout rural NSW. This funding will support the \$8.25 million already provided by NTN to establish the Community Technology Centre (CTC) program, for which there is matching State Government funding. Twenty-five new CTCs have already been approved out of a target of around 55. The latest NTN approval will provide existing as well as new centres, with videoconferencing capacity and support in delivering a range of tailored IT training in rural communities. Other service delivery opportunities will also continue to be opened up which build on the collaboration between the Federal and State Governments on these projects and which capture their full potential.

Gulf Connect—\$969 177. (Figure includes May 2002 top-up funding). This project is to establish locally based Community Technology Coordinators in Dajarra, Camooweal, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Burketown, Karumba and Normanton. This will build the capacity within communities to provide much needed technical support and training. The Community Technology Coordinators will add value to existing infrastructure provided through previous NTN funding and help to counter the isolation of such communities from larger centres, especially during the wet season.

Island Watch (Lagaw Asmer) Project — \$5 457 307. Funding through the Remote and Isolated Islands Fund is to improve telecommunications to the 16 inhabited islands of the Torres Strait. The project has a number of elements including upgraded telephony and data services—cabling and handsets for existing and new residential buildings and ISDN infrastructure to the outer islands; Internet access through 26 public Internet access terminals; training; and videoconferencing services to all 16 islands.

Up to \$700,000 has been approved by the NTN Board to the **Central West Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board (RAPDB)** for the provision of 35 UHF repeaters in the Gulf country. The repeaters will provide mobile communications to people living and working in this extremely remote and sparsely populated area. They will be particularly important for bushfire and emergency situations. The funding will support the installation of repeaters at various locations in northwest Queensland, including Croydon, Carpentaria, Burke, Doomadgee, Cloncurry, McKinlay and Richmond shires. The project will also upgrade some existing UHF facilities from battery to solar powered systems.

A significant upgrade to telecommunications services for the **Mornington Island** community will be provided. Up to \$1 551 425 has been allocated to assist the Mornington Shire Council provide basic telephone services to approximately 200 houses. The funding will also support a mobile phone service to the town of Gununa and the surrounding region. The funding will also provide for new VHF repeater radio towers that will extend the existing two way radio service to the whole of Mornington Island and other islands to the south.

Telecentres for Eyre—\$374,000. This project is to establish four telecentres for the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia, covering the centres of Coffin Bay, Elliston, Cowell and Streaky Bay. The funding will provide equipment including PCs, printers, scanners and photocopiers, as well as training and management.

Local Government Electronic Services Program—\$4 472 000. The Local Government Fund is providing for the implementation of the Local Government Information Economy Strategy developed by the Local Government Association of South Australia. The project will deliver an online 'one-stop-shop' for the wider regional community in accessing local government services in South Australia. Components of the project include web interfaces for public access, e-procurement facilities, development of online support for council documents, public registers, tenders, community information, training and coordination across councils.

Furneaux Group Telecommunications Infrastructure—\$1 600 000. Funding from the Remote and Isolated Islands Fund is being provided for the Furneaux Enterprise Centre's 'Furneaux Group Telecommunications Infrastructure Strategy' project, which will see the establishment of a CDMA-based mobile telephone and wireless local loop service for Flinders Island. The project will also provide partial mobile phone coverage for nearby Cape Barren Island, also part of the Furneaux Group.

Mobile Telephone Extensions—\$1 232 500. New mobile telephone services will be established in regional Tasmania, covering the Central Highlands, Eaglehawk Neck and Marawah regions. This funding fully commits the Commonwealth's Social Bonus initiative of \$1 million to expand mobile phone coverage to regional centres in Tasmania.

Funding of \$2.03 million was approved to establish mobile telephone services throughout regional Tasmania in the **Dorset and Circular Head regions**, from Campbelltown to Swansea, and the towns of Warratah and Savage River.

Building Best Practice in E-Commerce Training—\$227 900. This project will develop and implement a statewide e-commerce training program designed around world best practice, for small and medium enterprises. The training aims to overcome barriers to the adoption of e-commerce by SMEs identified recently in the report *e-Barriers, e-Benefits, e-Business*.

The western Australia Telecentre Support Unit has received approval for funding of \$220 000 to establish five telecentres in Remote Indigenous Communities in Western Australia. This project will provide telecommunications infrastructure, enhanced access to services, and central support. This project will provide an opportunity for these communities, to access online government and banking services, email family members, have access to comprehensive up to date news and to follow their favourite sports. The telecentres will encourage the users to 'connect' with other communities.

dEadly mOb Internet Cafe—\$231,227.

This project will establish an Internet cafe at the Gap Youth Centre, Alice Springs. This will supplement the current services provided at the Centre, which include a range of mentoring and support services, education and career training services as well as other activities such as classes in cultural dancing for Aboriginal youth in the Alice Springs area. The project is providing computers and associated software and equipment, networking, project management and IT training.

Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT)—\$5 451 400 (and \$1 980 500 extension). Funding is being provided from the Local Government Fund for the provision of equipment and development of online systems to enable the Territory's 66 regional Municipal and Indigenous Community Councils to improve service delivery, including online business systems, online information and services and a common portal for the councils. The project represents the implementation of LGANT's online strategy for Municipal and Community Councils and encompasses all local government councils outside Darwin.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Videoconferencing Service—\$272 000. Funding is being provided from the Remote and Isolated Islands Fund to assist the Cocos (Keeling) Islands Administration develop videoconferencing facilities. The videoconferencing services will provide the people of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands with better access to health and community services and help mitigate the significant disadvantages faced by residents and visitors to the Islands due to extreme isolation. The facilities will connect the West Island and Home Island of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands group as well as connect to Western Australia.

4.5 Consultancies

Over the year, a number of consultancies have been commissioned, to assist with various aspects of the program. Details of consultancies are outlined in Annexure F.

4.6 Promotion

During the year NTN was promoted through a range of events and activities including field visits by Board and Secretariat members, presentation to key conferences, media interviews and meetings with stakeholders. The fourth issue of the NTN Newsletter was circulated in December 2001. In addition, information kits containing fact sheets about the various aspects of the program were updated and distributed, the website (www.dcita.gov.au/ntn) was updated, funding decisions were announced, and the toll free 1800 number was available for people interested in the program.

5. Monitoring and review of the program

5.1 Purpose and scope

The purpose of the evaluation is to assess the contributions made by NTN to regional telecommunications infrastructure and services. The evaluation will involve:

- reporting and mapping of projects (where projects are located and what they have achieved);
- demonstrating the efficiency with which the program has been delivered, including audit reviews of projects;
- inventory of assets purchased with NTN funding eg number of mobile phone towers, computers, public Internet access facilities, videoconferencing facilities etc.;
- program impacts (how are projects delivering benefits/outcomes to regional communities to demonstrate social and economic improvements eg online learning opportunities, teleworking—case studies, focus groups etc.); and
- identifying program gaps and lessons learnt that will assist with future regional initiatives.

5.2 Management arrangements

The NTN Secretariat is seeking to undertake the evaluation with the assistance of a contractor, other areas of the Department, in particular the Communications Research Unit and the Regional Communications Policy Branch and to consult widely with rural communities and funding recipients.

5.3 Timing

The evaluation of NTN projects is ongoing, with all projects required to deliver progress and final reports under the terms of their contractual arrangements with the Department. These reports document information about project activities and performance outcomes. This information will be used for both ongoing project management and for evaluation purposes. In addition, the Departmental Auditors, KPMG have undertaken a number of reviews of projects to check recipient's financial compliance with the NTN Deed and this work is continuing.

An initial Evaluation Report of the NTN program by the contractors was published on the NTN website on 15 March 2002. A survey to ascertain the inventory of assets purchased with NTN funds was forwarded to all funding recipients in June 2001 and it is expected the compilation of the information surveys will be distributed by the end of October 2002. This inventory will include the number of mobile phone towers, computers, public Internet access facilities, videoconferencing facilities etc that have been purchased or delivered as a consequence of NTN funding. As the funds have largely been distributed, it is unlikely any new projects will be approved.

As major program elements are to be completed by 30 June 2003 and others by 30 June 2004, the reporting and analysis of program benefits will seek to document over the next two years the widespread improvements in infrastructure and access to telecommunications in regional Australia.

Annex A

Networking the Nation Board Terms of Reference

The NTN Board's primary role is to approve the allocation to projects of funds held in the Regional Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund in accordance with guidelines approved by the Minister. Once the Board has made its decision, the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts will arrange for payments to applicants, subject to appropriate contractual arrangements.

The Board's decisions on the allocation of funds to projects will not require Ministerial endorsement.

The other roles of the Board are:

- to develop guidelines for the Minister's approval which set out the criteria against which projects will be assessed and selected for funding;
- consider submissions made to the Board by state and territory governments (at the invitation of the Minister) in determining a strategy for NTN funding for each state/territory;
- make recommendations to the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts on policy issues that may arise through the process of fund allocation;
- participate in the development, promotion and evaluation of the Fund; and
- present annual reports on the operations of the Fund (see below).

Responsibilities of the Board members

Members have a responsibility to:

- consider each project application on its own merits in accordance with the guidelines as assessed against the selection criteria and to be fair and unbiased; and
- identify where there may be a conflict of interest.

Accountability

Administration of the Fund will be subject to the normal processes of review of Departmental Estimates by the Senate Legislation Committee. The Fund will be audited by the Auditor-General. For each year of the Fund's five-year life the Board will present and the Minister will arrange for tabling in Parliament, an annual report on the operations of the Fund. The report will include financial statements prepared in accordance with guidelines issued by the Minister for Finance and audit reports by the Auditor-General.

The Board will be expected by the general public, applicants, Parliament and key stakeholders to provide a justification for its funding decisions. The Board will need to determine to what extent this information will be made publicly available while at the same time respecting commercial and applicant confidentiality. Documents would be subject to normal provisions relating to documents held in the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts such as the Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts.

General

The Board will perform these functions in accordance with any guidelines, conflict of interest codes of conduct or meeting procedures in force from time-to-time.

Annex B

Projects approved by the NTN Board in 2001–02

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
MST2001/141	Association of Northern Kimberley Arnhem Aboriginal Artists	Top End and Kimberley Aboriginal art centres and e-commerce	ANKAAA member art centres located in the Top End of Australia (the Kimberley, Western Australia; Tiwi Islands, Arnhem and Darwin/ Katherine regions)	Establish e-commerce websites, linked to a central portal, and provide training for ANKAAA's member. Also available to the broader community as a community access point.	\$596 940
MST2001/142	Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia Incorporated	ICPA (AUST) Inc Web Site Development Proposal	Dulacca, Queensland	Provide equipment, website enhancements and training to improve Association services to its clients.	\$50 000
MST2001/143	Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Media	PYCom (Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Communications)	Anangu Pitjantjatjara lands, WA, SA, NT and Q'ld	Provide a comprehensive response to identified needs including public internet access, video conferencing, training and mobile radio services.	\$2 093 631
MST2001/146	Australian Local Government Association	Local Government Standard Operability in Transactions	National	To develop an interoperability framework that will ensure the seamless delivery of services across local government and offer standardised interfaces to multiple tiers of government.	\$1 660 000
MST2001/148	Australian Local Government Association	National Information and Knowledge Management	National	To conduct a scoping study and develop a project plan and budget for the development of a framework for information and knowledge management within councils across Australia.	\$20 000
MST2001/154	Outback Telecentre Network Inc	Outback Telecentre Network III	SA towns of Marree, Yunta, Oodnadatta, Mintabie	Establishment of a telecentre in Marree which will provide the community with access to online services and information. The project also covers the provision of videoconferencing facilities into existing telecentres in Yunta, Oodnadatta and Mintabie.	\$166 000
MST2002/160	I-Connect	Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Media	Remote communities across WA, SA and NT	To assist bridge the affordability gap for obtaining residential telephone services in remote communities in southern Northern Territory, all regional South Australia and the Ngaanyatjar Lands in central west Western Australia.	\$1 229 147

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
MST2002/161	Outback Digital Network	Outback Digital Network Ltd (ODN)	Remote WA and NT communities	Funding of \$10 762 642 has been provided to Outback Digital Network to provide robust high bandwidth capable services for 14 very remote communities in the Northern Territory, a telecentre and up to 384kbps video conferencing for Beagle Bay, Bidyadanga, Djarindjin and One Arm Point near Broome in WA and video conferencing for 23 NT communities, including Arnhem Land, Tiwi Islands, Jabiru and Groote Eylandt, to help overcome isolation and enhance access to online services.	\$10 762 642
NSW2001/348	Wollondilly Shire Council	Wollondilly Shire E-Council Kiosks	Wollondilly Shire	This project will install six electronic kiosks in various parts of Wollondilly shire, providing ready online access for isolated residents to services to be produced by the council	\$71 600
NSW2001/351	Tallaganda Shire Council	Tallaganda Telecommunications	Tallaganda Shire	This project will involve the conduct of a telecommunications strategy and business case exercise in the Tallaganda Shire, to attract enhanced telecommunications services to the area	\$30 000
NSW2001/328	Eurobodalla Shire Council	SE NSW Telecommunications Links Project	NSW South Coast, covering all towns across that area including the larger ones of Wollongong, Nowra, Ulladulla, Moruya, Bega, Eden and Queanbeyan	This project will tender for establishment of a new trunk telecommunications backbone for the NSW south coast, providing enhanced bandwidth and significant savings for all telecommunications users, either directly or indirectly through savings passed on by service providers also participating in the project	\$2 273 000
NT2001/070	Gap Youth Centre Aboriginal Corporation	dEadly mOb Internet Cafe	Alice Springs	To establish an Internet Cafe at the Gap Youth Centre.	\$231 227
NT2001/072	Local Govt Assoc of the Northern Territory (LGANT)	20/20 Connecting Communities	Across the Northern Territory	Provide public access to the internet, training, online content, video conferencing and support services in library or council premises.	\$375 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
NT2001/073	LGANT	NT Connect	All local government councils outside Darwin	The provision of equipment and development of online systems to enable the Territory's 66 regional Municipal and Community Councils improve service delivery.	\$5 451 400
NT2002/077	LGANT	Regional Council Connections	Regional Northern Territory	This application seeks to extend the developing NT Local Government Network previously funded under NTN, for 40 municipal and community councils to 20 of the Community Councils which do not have online connection with the network.	\$1 980 500
QLD2001/318	AgForce Queensland	Handset subsidy for satellite mobile phones	Rural and remote Queensland, targeting south west, central west, north west, Gulf and Cape York regions of Queensland.	Funding is provided to allow for a subsidy for up to 30 satellite mobile phone handsets to users in remote south west, central west or northern Queensland.	\$34 500
QLD2001/326	Belyando Shire Council	Kilcummin, Mt McLaren Mobile Telephony Service	Kilcummin/Mt McLaren	Establishment of mobile phone services for the Kilcummin/Mt McLaren community.	\$100 000
QLD2001/328	Bendemere Shire Council	Wallumbilla Mobile Phones Project	Wallumbilla	Establishment of mobile phone services for Wallumbilla	\$140 000
QLD2001/330	Community Solutions Hervey Bay Association Inc	Bay Connect Maryborough	Maryborough, Aldershot and Tiaro	Funding is provided to expand the Bay Connect public internet access project in Hervey Bay to Maryborough and the towns of Tiaro and Aldershot.	\$296 520
QLD2001/332	Beechmont Community Association Inc.	Beechmont Advanced Communication Upgrade Project (B.A.C.U.P)	Beechmont (Beaudesert Shire)	Funding is provided to establish a community based Information Technology Centre at the Beechmont Old School site.	\$150 000
QLD2001/333	Wide Bay 2020 Regional Planning Advisory Committee	Widebay Tel	Wide Bay	Funding for the development of a detailed business case and technical requirements for improved telecommunication services in the Wide Bay region.	\$100 000
QLD2001/334	Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association-Mt ISA Branch	Mt Isa Youth-Link	Mount Isa	Funding is provided to incorporate public access facilities aimed at disadvantaged youth within the Mount Isa Police and Citizens Youth Club.	\$58 390

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
QLD2001/335	Queensland Police Citizens Youth Welfare Association-Mareeba Branch	Mareeba Youth On-line	Mareeba	Funding is provided to incorporate public access facilities aimed at disadvantaged youth within the Mareeba Police and Citizens Youth Club	\$58 990
QLD2001/338	North Queensland Rural Health Training Unit	Gulf Connect	Dajarra, Camooweal, Doomadgee, Mornington Island, Burketown, Karumba, Normanton.	Funding is provided to build on the infrastructure platform already established in each of the communities by providing sustainable local technical support, increased flexible community access to the Internet and videoconferencing facilities as well as creating a knowledge base within the community.	\$667 500
QLD2001/343	GrowZone Development Network	GrowZone New Jobs Program #1	Provisionally ten locations - Tara, Wandoan, Taroom, Yuleba, Tambo, Quilpie, Thargomindah, Augathella, Surat and Cunnamulla	This project is to establish a network of trained personal computer and internet support officers throughout south-west Queensland	\$428 000
QLD2001/344	Kepnock State High School	KEPNET CCC	Bundaberg	Funding is provided to develop a business plan for a Community Communications Centre, with a focus on providing facilities for people with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.	\$10 000
QLD2001/346	Palm Island Aboriginal Council	Palm Island Internet Centre and Web Site	Palm Island	Funding is provided to establish a public access facility and training for the Palm Island Community.	\$150 000
QLD2001/350	Eastern Downs Regional Applicant of Councils Inc.	EDROC Study	Eastern Downs region of Queensland, including the Shires of Millmerran, Pittsworth, Jondaryon, Warwick, Clifton, Cambooya, Roslie, Crows Nest, Gatton and the Toowoomba City Council.	Funding provided to prepare a business case to advocate a change in the information and communications technology infrastructure within the Darling Downs and south west region of Queensland.	\$50 000
QLD2001/351	Women's Health Queensland Wide Inc	Women Linking for Health	Spring Hill, Brisbane	Funding is provided for one videoconference unit, to be installed in the Women's Health Queensland Wide's Spring Hill premises.	\$14 300

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
QLD2001/352	Mundubbera Community Development Association Inc.	Central Burnett Community Inter-prise Centre	Mundubbera and the surrounding shires of the Inland Burnett region, Queensland.	Funding is provided for a public Internet access centre which is equipped with adaptive technology as well as a mobile outreach service covering the surrounding Shires.	\$361 830
QLD2001/353	South Burnett Local Government Association Inc.	South Burnett Tele-Communication Frame-work	The Shires of Nanango, Rosalie, Kingaroy, Wondai, Murgon, Cherbourg Aboriginal Community and Kilkivan	Funding is provided to develop a telecommunications strategy and business case for improved telecommunications services in the South Burnett Region.	\$50 000
QLD2001/354	Murilla Shire Council	Dogwood Crossing @ Miles Internet and Computer Centre	Miles, Queensland	Funding is provided for a public access facility to be incorporated within the new Dogwood Crossing Centre.	\$64 189
QLD2001/355	Yarraman & District Historical Society Inc	Yarraman IMC Project	Yarraman (Rosalie Shire)	Funding for the employment of a project officer for the Yarraman Internet Coffee Lounge located in the Yarraman Heritage Centre	\$15 000
QLD2001/365	Queensland Government Department of Health	Island Watch (Lagaw Asmer) Project	All 16 inhabited islands of the Torres Strait	Funding is provided to improve telecommunications services to the Torres Strait region. The project has five elements, including upgraded telephony and data services, internet access, training and videoconferencing services.	\$5 457 307
QLD2002/375	Wide Bay Volunteer Resource Association Inc	Bay Connect Bundaberg	Bundaberg and surrounding areas	Funding is granted to establish a hub style network of public access centres to deliver training to the disadvantaged sector and geographically isolated.	\$250 000
QLD2002/415	Mapoon Aboriginal Council	Connecting Mapoon	Cape York Peninsula - 80km north west of Weipa	Public internet access facilities and training for the Mapoon community.	\$45 000
QLD2002/420	Cooloola Human Services Network	Cooloola Connect	Gympie and surrounding areas	To establish a network of 19 public internet access facilities within community agencies.	\$250 000
QLD2002/389	Eidsvold State School	Eidsvold Information and Enterprise Center	Eidsvold	The establishment of a public internet access centre including videoconferencing facilities.	\$120 750

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
QLD2001/371	Barambah Aboriginal Community Care Agency Inc	Kingaroy site	Kingaroy	Funding is for a videoconferencing unit in Kingaroy and for public access and training to benefit the general public.	\$11 050
QLD2002/378	Burdekin Development Council Inc.	Mobile Telephony Service for Burdekin	Clare and Millaroo, Burdekin Shire	Establishment of CDMA Mobile Phone Service for Clare and Millaroo	\$144 682
QLD2002/372	Tara Shire council	Mobile Telephony for Chinchilla, Millmerran, Tara & Waggamba	Shires of Tara, Chinchilla, Millmerran and Waggamba	Provision of mobile phone coverage to fill existing gaps across the targeted area.	\$925 000
QLD2002/382	Fraser Island Association Inc	Mobile Telephony for Fraser Island	Fraser Island	Establishment of mobile telephony services for Fraser Island.	\$582 765
QLD2002/385	Mornington Shire Council	Mornington Network (Kanyamari Project)	Mornington Island and other islands in the Wellesley Group.	To assist bridge the affordability gap for obtaining residential fixed telephone services and establish a mobile phone service and build a community owned communications towers, which will extend the existing VHF radio network across Mornington and Bentinck Islands.	\$1 551 425
QLD2002/384	Townsville City Council	Neighbourhood Mobilenet	Alligator Creek, Corcoran Park, Cungulla, Cutheringa Park, Garbutt, Heatley, Oak Valley, Pallarenda Park, Woodstock, Wulguru.	The provision of access to Internet training for clients through a mobile library service operated through the Townsville City Council.	\$81 116
QLD2002/401	Central Western Queensland Remote Area Planning and Development Board	North Western Queensland UHF Radio Augmentation	The UHF coverage will be provided around Richmond in the east across to the NT Queensland border and up to Dunbar in the Cape to just below the Flinders Highway in the south.	Funding is sought to install 35 new UHF repeaters at various locations in northwest Queensland region, including the Croydon, Carpentaria, Burke, Doomadgee, Cloncurry, McKinlay and Richmond shires. The project will also upgrade some existing UHF facilities from battery to solar powered systems.	\$700 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
QLD2002/386	Townsville City Council	Older Persons Net	Townsville	Funding is sought to provide computers and internet access to seniors located in their own homes and in community care facilities in Townsville. It will also provide funds to train volunteers to give computer training to seniors. Volunteers will be co-ordinated by the University of the Third Age.	\$52 500
QLD2002/381	Balkanu, Cape York Dev Corp	Outstation telephones	Cape York	To assist bridge the affordability gap for obtaining residential telephone services by meeting network extension charges for 130 outstations, extending a previously funded NTN project.	\$200 200
QLD2002/394	Legal Aid Queensland	Prison Visits via Videoconferencing Program	Correctional centres in or around Brisbane/Gold Coast, Darling Downs, Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton	A program to enable families located in rural and remote areas of Queensland to access detainees in correctional centres via videoconferencing.	\$367 399
QLD2002/392	Local Government Association of Queensland Inc.	Queensland Local Government – Connecting Community Councils	Various locations throughout Queensland and Torres Strait Islands	To support Indigenous Community Councils throughout Queensland to develop online service capabilities for their communities.	\$2 240 000
QLD2002/424	Lockhart State School	Reach In - Reach Out - Phase 2	Lockhart River, Pormpuraaw, Herberton and Cairns	Funding to link Lockhart River School with three other schools in the Cape York region.	\$80 000
QLD2001/366	SeniorNet Australia Association Incorporated	SeniorNet Australia - Seniors helping seniors with I.T. & the Internet	QLD wide	The SeniorNet project will provide specialised training materials and assistance to enable senior groups interested in online communication to develop in regional and remote QLD.	\$87 000
QLD2002/390	Queensland Health	<i>VideoAccess@qld</i>	rural and remote locations across QLD	This project will upgrade Q'ld Health Department videoconferencing network through the purchase of new video conferencing equipment and software.	\$1 000 000
QLD2002/417	Yarrabah Community Council	Yarrabah –Australian Indigenous Cultural Network	Yarrabah indigenous community, near Cairns, Queensland	Funding to provide a public internet access facility in Yarrabah. The facility will be used to provide internet and online training to the mostly indigenous community in the area.	\$150 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
SA2001/231	Morgan Telecentre	Morgan Community Development & Tourism Association Inc	Morgan, South Australia	Funding is provided to establish a Telecentre in Morgan, which will provide the community with access to online services and information.	\$112 100
SA2001/235	Eyre Regional Development Board	Telecentres for Eyre	Coffin Bay, Elliston, Cowell and Streaky Bay.	Establishment of four Telecentres in the towns of Coffin Bay, Elliston, Cowell and Streaky Bay, which will provide these communities with access to online services and information.	\$374 000
SA2001/238	Local Government Association of South Australia	Local Government Electronic Services Program	Regional SA	Implementation of the Local Government Information Economy Strategy to deliver an online 'one stop shop' for Regional Local Government Services.	\$4 472 000
SA2001/242	Central Local Government Region	Central Local Government Region of SA Telecommunications Initiative Investigation	Central, Yorke Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula regions in South Australia.	Development of a body of technical specifications and research information for the purpose of tendering for the provision of alternative telecommunications network infrastructure for the Central, Yorke Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula regions in South Australia.	\$60 000
SA2002/257	Pitjantjatjara Council	Ara Irititja Archive Online Access Project: Stage 3	Watarru, Indulkana, and Kenmore	Provision of three mobile workstations for the Indigenous communities of Watarru, Indulkana, and Kenmore to enable residents to access the Ara Irititja database.	\$188 000
SA2002/254	Burra Community Development Program Inc	Burra Telecentre and Internet Cafe	Burra, SA	To establish a Telecentre in Burra.	\$132 369
SA2002/260	Clare and Gilbert Shire Council	Clare Youth at the Centre	Clare, SA	To establish a public Internet access facility in Clare.	\$111 500
SA2002/255	Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Frances & Caves Mobile Phone Coverage	Naracoorte Caves and Frances	Installation of two CDMA mobile telephone base stations	\$262 000
SA2002/259	Mid North Regional Development Board	Mintaro/Booborowie Mobile Phone Coverage	Mintaroo and Booborowie	Installation of two CDMA mobile telephone base stations	\$242 000
SA2001/250	SA Department of Human Services	Murray Bridge Community Communications Centre	Murray Bridge	Establishment of a Community Access Centre	\$130 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
SA2002/252	Riverland Domestic Violence Unit Inc.	Phoenix Network	Riverland Region	Establishment of a PC-based Videoconferencing Network to enable victims of domestic violence to seek counselling and obtain information	\$55 000
SA2001/249	Two Wells and Environs Strategic Planning Committee	Two Wells Internet Cafe and Web Presence	Two Wells, SA	To establish a public internet access facility in Two Wells	\$63 000
SA2002/261	Tumby Bay Community Development Board Incorporated	Upgrade of Tumby Bay Telecentre Infrastructure	Tumby Bay, SA	Upgrade of Tumby Bay Telecentre	\$60 000
SA2002/253	Scotdesco Incorporated	Wangka Wilurrara Online	Yalata, Oak Valley (Maralinga), Koonibba, Scotdesco Homeland, Tia Tuckia, Port Lincoln, and Ceduna	Provision of Internet access to remote indigenous communities in the Far West Region of SA	\$151 000
SA2000/187	District Council of Yorke Peninsula	Yorke Peninsula Community Connect	Maitland, South Australia	To fund a public internet access facility in Maitland	\$138 444
TAS2001/288	Bicheno Online Access Centre	Upgrade of equipment & software for Bicheno OAC	Bicheno, Tasmania	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$26 335
TAS2001/292	Cygnets Community Online Centre	Cygnets Community Online Centre	Cygnets	To establish a Community Access Centre	\$98 822
TAS2001/293	Circular Head Council	Extension of mobile phone coverage - Marawah area	Marawah area of Circular Head	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in the Marawah area	\$512 500
TAS2001/294	Eaglehawk Neck Community Hall Assoc Inc	Eaglehawk Neck and surrounding areas mobile phone service implementation	Eaglehawk Neck, Taranna, Koonya, Murdunna, Premaydena, Saltwater River and surrounding waterways.	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in the Tasman Peninsula area	\$285 000
TAS2001/296	Central Highlands Council	Mobile phone coverage for major tourism areas of the Central Highlands	Miena, Bothwell and Bronte Park in the Central Highlands region	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in parts of the Central Highlands region	\$435 000
TAS2001/297	Cape Barren Island Aboriginal Association Inc.	Online Access Centre	Cape Barren Island (in Bass Strait)	Funding will establish a public internet access centre and meet initial operating expenses.	\$87 344
TAS2001/298	Furneaux Enterprise Centre	Furneaux Group Telecommunications Infrastructure Strategy	Furneaux Islands Group	The project will establish a CDMA-based mobile telephony and wireless local loop service for Flinders Island with extended mobile phone coverage to Cape Barren Island.	\$1 600 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
TAS2001/299	Colebrook Online Access Centre	Colebrook OAC Equipment Upgrade and Training Scheme	Colebrook	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$27 885
TAS2001/300	Wilmot Online Access Centre	Equipment Upgrade for Wilmot Online Access Centre	Wilmot OAC	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$15 390
TAS2001/301	Burnie Online Access Centre	Repair/Replacement of outdated computers	Burnie	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$1 200
TAS2001/302	Longford Online Access Centre Inc	Longford Online Access Centre	Longford	Upgrade equipment for existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$18 645
TAS2001/303	Geeveston Online Inc (Geeveston Online Access Centre)	Hardware and Software Upgrade 2001	Geeveston in the Huon Valley, Tasmania	To provide training and to upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$8 800
TAS2001/304	Rosebery Community Council Inc	Replacement and Upgrade of Equipment for Rosebery Online Access Centre	Rosebery on the West Coast of Tasmania	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$13 255
TAS2001/306	Forth Valley On Line Access Centre Inc.	Forth Valley On Line Access Centre Inc.	Forth	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$19 185
TAS2001/307	Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House Inc.	Fingal Online Technology Upgrade	The Fingal Valley in NE Tasmania	Upgrade the existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$8 805
TAS2001/311	Flinders Island Online Access Centre	Training and Development in the use of latest information technologies and software	Flinders Island	Training for existing NTN funded telecentre	\$9 700
TAS2001/312	Flinders Island Online Access Centre	Upgrade of Equipment	Whitemark, Flinders Island	Upgrade and Enhancement of Equipment and Services offered by the Flinders Island OnLine Access Centre	\$18 671
TAS2001/313	St. Marys Association for Community Development	Full Service Centre Equipment & Mobile Van Refit	St Marys	Computer equipment for existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$4 000
TAS2001/314	Woodbridge Online Access Centre	Inaugural Equipment Upgrade (Woodbridge OAC)	Woodbridge	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$9 595
TAS2001/316	Lilydale Online Inc	Equipment Upgrade for Lilydale Online Access Centre	Lilydale	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$13 090
TAS2001/318	Maydena Online Access Centre	Maydena Online Access Centre	Maydena	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$16 111
TAS2001/320	eServices Group	Service Tasmania Shop at Wynyard	Wynyard	This project will establish a Service Tasmania 'shop' in Wynyard	\$75 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
TAS2001/326	Local Government Association of Tasmania	Local Laws Online II	State Wide	This project will allow the Local Government Association of Tasmania to produce and disseminate a series of online templates to enhance access to and use of local council policies and guidelines	\$100 000
TAS2001/328	Burnie City Council	Expanded IT Resource Sharing - Existing Councils	North-west Tasmania	To extend the current NTN-funded IT Resource Sharing project to allow the West Coast and Circular Head Councils to access the Burnie City Council network and high data speed telecommunication links.	\$180 000
TAS2001/329	King Island Regional Development Applicant	King Island Online Access Centre Upgrade	King Island	Upgrade the existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$10 500
TAS2001/330	Huonville Online Access Centre	Equipment Upgrade for Huonville Online Access Centre	Huonville	Upgrade the existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$9 475
TAS2001/331	Department of Health and Human Services	Campbell Town Telehealth	Campbell Town	This project will establish telehealth facilities in Campbell Town, providing videoconferencing and access to a range of specialised health services not locally available.	\$119 000
TAS2001/334	The Channel Enterprise Inc.	Enhancing Online Access Centres II	Huon and Kingborough	This project will conduct a program to stimulate and support the increased take-up of e-commerce in the Huon and Kingborough area, involving NTN funded Online Access Centres.	\$71 000
TAS2001/336	Bothwell Online Access Centre Inc	Bothwell Replacement/ upgrade of existing equipment and additional equipment	Bothwell	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$8 800
TAS2001/343	Strahan Online Access Centre	Upgrade of the technology of the Strahan Online Access Centre	Strahan	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$26 190
TAS2002/372	Northern Midlands Council	Achieving mobile phone coverage: Campbell Town to Swansea	Along Lake Leake Road between Campbell Town and Swansea	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage between Campbell Town and Swansea.	\$177 500
TAS2002/349	Burnie City Council	Burnie OAC Server Upgrade	Burnie	Replace the server at an existing NTN funded Telecentre.	\$15 000
TAS2002/351	Campbell Town District High School Parents and Friends Association Inc	Campbell Town OAC Equipment upgrade	Campbell Town	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$11 400

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
TAS2002/352	Derwent Valley Online Inc.	Derwent Valley Online Access Centre Upgrade	Derwent Valley	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$8 224
TAS2002/359	Devonport Online Computer Upgrade	Devonport Online Computer Upgrade	Devonport	Upgrade existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$49 565
TAS2002/366	Dorset Council	Dorset Mobile Telephony	Scottsdale to Bridport, Scottsdale to Lilydale, Ansons's Bay to Cape Portland, in the Dorset municipality.	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage to parts of the Dorset municipality.	\$995 000
TAS2002/369	Edith Creek Online Access Centre Inc.	Edith Creek Online Access Centre Upgrade	Edith Creek, Tasmania	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$11 000
TAS2002/360	Geeveston Online Inc (Geeveston Online Access Centre)	Equipment Update 2002 Geeveston OAC	Geeveston	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$14 850
TAS2002/345	Penguin Online Access Centre	Equipment Upgrade for Penguin Online Access Centre	Penguin	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$11 300
TAS2002/379	Circular Head Council	Extension of mobile phone coverage for Edith Creek, Trowutta, Togari, Montagu and Roger River areas.	Areas between Edith Creek, Trowutta, Togari, Montagu and Roger River.	This project involves the provision of digital mobile phone coverage in areas covered by the Circular Head Council.	\$420 000
TAS2002/368	Dover Community Telecentre Inc	Far South Onsite Online Publishing Project	Dover	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$1 742
TAS2002/363	Deloraine Online Access Centre nc	Full Service: Meeting the need (Deloraine OAC)	Deloraine	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$20 950
TAS2002/371	Latrobe Vision Inc (Latrobe Online Access Centre)	Latrobe OAC Equipment Upgrade - 2	Latrobe	Upgrade existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$14 740
TAS2002/373	Margate Online Association Inc.	Margate Online Access Centre Continuing IT in 2002-3.	Margate	Upgrade existing NTN funded Telecentre.	\$6 050
TAS2002/364	Ridgley Online Access Centre (Ridgley Primary School Council Inc)	New Equipment for Ridgley Online Access Centre	Ridgley	Upgrade existing NTN funded Telecentre.	\$18 060
TAS2002/354	Online Access Centre Association of Tasmania	OACAT - Enhancing & promoting Online Access Centres	Statewide	Funding will be used to continue and expand OACAT's activities towards ensuring the long term sustainability of Tasmania's telecentres.	\$147 250
TAS2002/348	St.Marys Association for Community Development	OHS & Service Extension Equipment (St Marys OAC)	St Marys	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$14 100
TAS2002/362	Ouse Online Community Access Centre Inc	Ouse OCAC- Upgrade	Ouse	Upgrade existing NTN funded Online Access Centre.	\$15 650

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
TAS2002/357	Tasmanian West Coast Business Development Inc	Overcoming the Tyranny of Distance (Zeehan OAC)	Zeehan	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$19 856
TAS2002/358	Redpa Online Access Centre Upgrade	Redpa Online Access Centre Upgrade	Redpa	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$14 050
TAS2002/367	Launceston Online Inc	Refurbishment of outdated equipment (Launceston OAC)	Launceston	Upgrade an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$29 800
TAS2002/376	Tasmanian Chamber of Commerce & Industry	Regional E-Commerce Assistance Program	Statewide	To raise the awareness of the Tasmania's micro business sector to the benefits of e-commerce, and to provide an incentive scheme for this sector to takeup Information Communication Technology.	\$137 294
TAS2002/355	Burnie City Council	Remodel the centre (Burnie OAC)	Burnie	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre.	\$13 500
TAS2002/347	Wynyard Online Access Centre Inc	Replacement/ Acquisition of Equipment and Training (Wynyard OAC)	Wynyard, Tasmania	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre	\$23 340
TAS2002/356	Dorset eCentreInc	Scottsdale OAC – equipment update /Staff & Community Training	Scottsdale	Upgrade existing NTN funded telecentre.	\$27 840
TAS2002/346	Central Coast Council	Ulverstone Online – Into the Future	Ulverstone	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$6 000
TAS2002/370	Tullah Progress Association Inc.	Upgrade of Facilities, Tullah Online Access Centre	Tullah	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$13 750
TAS2002/377	George Town On-line Inc	Upgrade of Technology Equipment for George Town OAC	George Town	Upgrade existing NTN funded Telecentre	\$22 320
TAS2002/374	Waratah-Wynyard Council	Waratah Savage River Mobile Coverage	The towns of Waratah and Savage River including the Waratah Road between Fingerpost and the Muchison Highway and Corinna on the Pieman River	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage Waratah and Savage River in the West Coast of Tasmania	\$437 500
TAS2002/365	Dorset eCentre nc	Winnaleah, Derby and Ringarooma Online Access Centres Upgrade	Winnaleah, Derby and Ringarooma	Upgrade of existing NTN funded Telecentres	\$22 000
TAS2002/375	Bothwell Online Access Centre Inc	Equipment upgrade and OH&S requirements (Bothwell OAC)	Bothwell	Upgrade of an existing NTN funded Telecentre.	\$3 872

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
VIC2001/260	Murrindindi Shire Council	Flowerdale Mobile Telephone Coverage	Flowerdale and its immediate surrounds within the Murrindindi Shire	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in the Flowerdale area	\$190 000
VIC2001/266	Delatite Shire Council	Jamieson Mobile Telephone Service	Jamieson area in the southern part of the Delatite Shire	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in the Jamieson area	\$200 000
VIC2001/267	Kerang Baptist Church	PowerHouse Internet Cafe	Kerang in North-west Victoria	The aim of the project is to establish a public internet access facility within the PowerHouse Youth Centre in Kerang.	\$28 000
VIC2001/271	Central Gippsland Institute of TAFE	Cyber Cafe	Warragul, Gippsland	Establish a cyber cafe in central Warragul to provide public access to the Internet, focussed particularly on people over 45 years, retirees, women on farms, disability groups and general tourism.	\$175 000
VIC2001/273	Mildura Rural City Council	Mallee Highway Mobile Telephone Coverage	The Mallee Highway, between Ouyen and Murrayville	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage along an unserved area of the Mallee Highway between Ouyen and Murrayville.	\$540 000
VIC2001/279	Toolamba Community Group	Toolamba Mobile Telephone Coverage	Toolamba and surrounding areas	This project involves provision of digital mobile phone coverage in the Toolamba area.	\$165 000
VIC2001/282	Bungyarnda CDEP Co-Operative Limited & Lake Tyers Aboriginal Trust	IT for LTAT	Lake Tyers, east Gippsland	This funding is for computers and associated technical support for a public internet access centre to be established in the new training centre to be built on the Trust's land in East Gippsland.	\$65 000
VIC2001/283	Skills.net Association Co-op Ltd	Building Best Practice in E-Commerce Training	Statewide, Victoria	This project will develop and implement a Statewide e-commerce training program for SMEs that is designed around World's Best Practice.	\$227 900
VIC2001/284	Victorian Association of Youth in Communities	Networking the Clubs	Apollo Bay, Bellarine, Belmont, Koorong Vale, Licola, Wollert, Yarrowalla	Two computers and associated equipment will be provided and connected to the Internet in three youth clubs in rural communities where there is no alternate public access to the Internet. The facilities will be made available to the public.	\$40 000
VIC2002/294	East Gippsland A.C.D.E.P.	Indigenous Information Technology Centre	Bairnsdale	Establish and operate an Indigenous orientated Internet public internet access site in Bairnsdale, Gippsland.	\$50 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
VIC2002/295	Mitiamo Progress Association	Mobile CDMA Phone Base Station at Prairie	Mitiamo, Dingee, Calivil, East Loddon, Milloo and Prairie in Central Victoria	To establish a CDMA mobile telephone service to the district.	\$175 000
VIC2002/292	Warburton and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.	Warburton Online	Warburton	Establish and operate a public Internet access site in Warburton, in the Yarra Ranges N-E of Melbourne.	\$55 000
VIC2002/298	Continuing Education Centre	Wodonga Community Education Centre IT	Wodonga	Upgrade 20 computer screens in an Internet public access site in Wodonga as well as upgrading desks, tables, bench space, chairs and training materials.	\$14 285
WA2001/145	Albany GateWAY Cooperative Ltd.	Albany GateWAY: E-GateWAY The next phase	Great Southern Region of WA	To provide further training and assistance, an online presence and e-commerce options to the Albany GateWAY for the region's community and businesses.	\$100 000
WA2001/146	Denmark Telecentre Inc	Denmark Telecentre Training Project	Shire of Denmark located in the Great Southern region of Western Australia.	To provide training for technical support services for the internet to the Denmark Community.	\$25 000
WA2001/149	Ngaanyatjarra Council (Aboriginal Corporation)	Virtual Private Network for the Ngaanyatjarra Lands	Ngaanyatjarra Lands, central west WA	Acquire and install equipment and establish a network connecting Ngaanyatjarra Council sites.	\$429 434
WA2001/150	The Bunbury Chamber of Commerce & Industries Inc	mysouthwest internet portal	The South West Region in WA	To provide further training and assistance, an online presence and e-commerce options to the 'mysouthwest' portal for the region's community and businesses.	\$90 000
WA2002/162	Kimberley Law and Aboriginal Cultural Centre	Australian Indigenous Cultural Network	Fitzroy Crossing	To establish a public internet access facility and to provide equipment and training for the community of Fitzroy Crossing and surrounds.	\$80 000
WA2002/158	WA Telecentre Support Unit	Telecentres in remote Indigenous Communities in Western Australia	Five remote communities in Western Australia	To establish five model telecentres based in remote Indigenous communities and to develop a more flexible and workable telecentre model that address the unique characteristics of these communities.	\$220 000

Project Code	Applicant	Project	Location	Description	Funds
WA2002/163	Ngaanyatjarra Council (Aboriginal Corporation)	Ngaanyatjarra Council Telecentres	Ngaanyatjarra Lands in the Gibson and Great Victoria Deserts	This proposal will provide the indigenous people in the Ngaanyatjarra Lands with internet connected PC's, awareness raising and training to enable them to get online. The lands are home to some 2432 people across 18 585 000 hectares (almost the size of NSW).	\$220 000
EXT2001/023	Dot CX Limited	Christmas Island Information Economy Dev	Christmas Island	To purchase equipment to improve the IT, employment / training opportunities for local residents.	\$212 150
EXT2001/022	The Government of Norfolk Island	Norfolk Island Mobile Telephone System	Norfolk Island	To provide a mobile telephone service on Norfolk Island.	\$1 090 300
EXT2001/024	Cocos (Keeling) Islands Administration	Cocos (Keeling) Islands Videoconferencing Service	Cocos (Keeling) Islands	To provide a video conferencing service for Cocos (Keeling) Islands.	\$272 000
152 PROJECTS FUNDED IN 2001-02				TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING COMMITTED IN 2001-02	\$61 804 783

Variations approved 2001–02

Project Code	Title	Project Description	Amount
Sep 01 SA1998/055	Yorke town Regional Telecentre	Additional funding for the Telecentre in Yorketown to cover provision of a regional IT Development Coordinator to promote the uptake of IT on the Southern Yorke Peninsula. The centre provides community access to the internet, online learning, and acts as a youth and community centre, business resource centre, training facility and centre for IT equipment and excellence in Yorketown.	\$50 140
TAS1999/090	Technical Assistance Online Project	Change of use of funds for previously approved project	\$0
TAS2000/113	Integrated Community Network Project – North West Tasmania	Top-up funding to include Waratah-Wynyard Council into the existing NTN-funded Integrated Community Network Project being undertaken by Burnie City Council	\$60 000
TAS2000/136	Telemedicine Service – Clarke and Cape Barren Islands	Top-up funding to assess telecommunications solutions for the existing NTN-funded Telemedicine Service	\$30 000
VIC1999/133	CYBERBUS – A Rural Internet Mentoring Program	Top-up funding for the Moira Shire Cyberbus to establish a satellite connection for the bus and to provide increased hours for the mentor to better meet demand for public access to the Internet in the region	\$54 100
VIC2001/262	City of Greater Bendigo	Connecting Central Victoria	\$60 000
VIC2000/141	Regional Connectivity Project	Top-up funding to provide administrative support for the Regional Connectivity project co-ordinator to establish seventeen Community Enterprise Centres across central western Victoria	\$40 000
VIC2001/240	Seymour Youth Café	Top-up funding will allow the recruitment of skilled staff to oversight and assist the public at the new internet access centre being established in Seymour	\$68 000
VIC2000/215	Connecting the Upper Kiewa Valley	Top-up funding will allow for the Mount Beauty Neighbourhood Centre to complete the telecentre project as planned	\$18 984
QLD1998/91	Burnett Inland IT Strategy (BIITS)	Top-up funding to extend the existing trainer/technical officer position for 14 months	\$100 000
QLD1998/135	Surat Community Access IT Training Centre	Top-up funding for the provision of additional salary and computer equipment for the Surat Internet Access Centre	\$28 000
QLD1999/159	GraniteNet	Top-up funding to extend the GraniteNet project officer position for 12 months and community training and training resources (equipment)	\$68 000
QLD1999/170	Innisfail Internet Café	Top-up funding for disability computer access equipment	\$10 000
QLD1999/178	Chinchilla Internet Café	Top-up funding to provide additional operating costs for the Chinchilla Technology Centre Project	\$96 250
QLD2001/346	Palm Island Internet Centre & Website	Change of Use of Funds for a previously approved project	\$0
WA2000/091	Geraldton Fisherman's Cooperative Ltd	Mobile Telephony to the Shire of Northampton and the Abrolhos Islands project	\$69 500
May 02 QLD1998/51	Hervey Bay City Council	Top-up funding for the provision of additional training and adaptive resources for the Bay Connect Project	\$52 863
QLD1998/64	Telemedicine for North and Western Queensland	Top-up funding for the implementation of a new training program through the establishment of a 'Virtual Training Network'.	\$312 612
QLD1998/78	Capricornia Connect Indigenous Community Access	Top-up funding to enable the continuation of the existing 'Capricornia Connect' project, which is providing internet and IT training to 15 indigenous community organisations throughout central and northern Queensland	\$165 188
QLD1999/170	Innisfail Internet Café	Top-up funding to support the operations of the Innisfail Flexi Cyber Café for an additional 12 months	\$71 700

Project Code	Title	Project Description	Amount
QLD2000/265	Central West Queensland Regional IT Training and Associated Activities	Top-up funding for the continuation of the existing training initiative in the 11 targeted shires in central western Queensland for a second 12 month period	\$562 000
QLD2001/288	BridgIT2	Top-up funding for costs associated with establishing the BridgIT Help Desk	\$30 000
QLD2001/298	South Burnett Online Centre	To provide top-up funding to the South Burnett Community Training Centre for networking equipment	\$46 120
QLD2001/330	Bay Connect Maryborough	Top-up funding for an extension of the Bay Connect Maryborough project to the Tiaro Shire through the establishment of a public internet access facility and training	\$80 000
QLD2001/333	Widebay Tel	Top-up funding to assist development of appropriate legal/institutional structures with a network partner with a view to delivering enhanced telecommunications services to the Wide Bay Region	\$50 000
QLD2001/338	Gulf Connect	Top-up funding for the provision of additional salary and operational costs to implement the Gulf Connect project	\$291 677
QLD2001/354	Dogwood Crossing @ Miles Internet and Computer Centre	Top-up funding to establish a training program and purchase of adaptive technology for the planned public access facility	\$29 275
NSW2000/298	Online Services and Delivery Initiative	This is an extension of an existing project by the NSW Local Government & Shires Associations (LGSA) who have been granted \$4.6m under the NSW Local Government Fund to enhance the online delivery of services and information by councils to their communities	\$4 140 000
SA1998/55	Southern Yorke Peninsula Community Telecentre	To provide additional equipment for the Telecentre	\$24 000
SA2000/151	Strathalbyn Community Online Centre	To provide marketing for the community online centre	\$4 000
SA2000/170	Distance Mental Health Care – Clinical Services, Education and Training	To provide an online booking system for the regional videoconference network	\$0
SA2000/183	Loxton Community Access Centre	To provide additional equipment and salary for the Telecentre	\$53 080
SA2000/199	The Hub – Coonalpyn Communication Network	To provide additional equipment and salary for the Telecentre	\$57 000
SA2001/220	Computers for the Community	To provide additional equipment and salary for the Telecentre	\$48 520
SA2001/227	Port Pirie Regional Resource Centre	To provide additional equipment and salary for the Telecentre	\$63 150
SA2001/231	Morgan Telecentre	To provide additional equipment and salary for the Telecentre	\$56 260
VIC2000/158	Ecafe/Eshop	To provide broadband access for the Shire's two ecafe's located in Benalla and Mansfield	\$5 000
NT1999/29	Daly Waters & District	To provide additional funds for the Ultra High Frequency UHF) Citizens Band Community Radio Network	\$10 623
TAS1999/057	Career Planning Information System	The project will establish an online career planning service for the north of the State and will develop and trial an interactive database/website	\$52 000
39 ADDITIONS TO PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PROJECTS (TOPUPS)		TOTAL FUNDING FOR VARIATIONS TO PROJECTS	\$6 958 042

Annex C

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, PROJECTS APPROVED AND VARIED BY STATE AND TERRITORY, 2001–02

	Total no. of applications considered by the NTN Board in 2001–02 (excluding variations to previously approved projects)	Projects approved by the Board for each State or Territory (excluding variations to previously approved projects)	Total no. of variations considered by the NTN Board	Total no of variations approved by the NTN Board
ACT	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
NSW	5	3	1	1
NT	7	4	1	1
QLD	70	38	18	17
SA	29	15	11	9
TAS	70	61	5	3
VIC	31	14	7	6
WA	11	7	NIL	1
Multistate - Remote Islands	18	6	2	1
National	2	2	NIL	NIL
External Territories	5	3	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	248	153	44	39

Annex D

SUMMARY OF FUNDING APPROVALS FOR 2001–02 BY FUND

FUND	FUNDING COMMITTED
NTN General Fund	\$24 994 707
Building Additional Rural Networks	\$12 842 454
Local Government Fund	\$15 277 425
Remote and Isolated Islands Fund	\$14 568 239
Tasmania Extended Mobile Telephone Coverage	\$1 000 000
TOTAL APPROVALS	\$68 682 825

SUMMARY OF FUNDING APPROVALS FOR 2001–02 BY STATE/TERRITORY

STATE/TERRITORY	FUNDING COMMITTED
New South Wales	\$ 6 514 600
Northern Territory	\$16 760 799
Queensland	\$16 546 208
South Australia	\$ 9 486 187
Tasmania	\$ 6 697 901
Victoria	\$ 2 185 719
Western Australia	\$ 2 141 143
Multistate	\$ 5 095 818
National	\$ 1 680 000
External Territories	\$ 1 574 450
TOTAL APPROVALS	\$68 682 825

Annex E

Payments by fund and by State/Territory in 2001–02

STATE/TERRITORY	PAYMENTS	REFUNDS	TOTAL
New South Wales	\$13 818 448.00	nil	\$13 818 448.00
Queensland	\$13 518 093.08	\$80 576.92	\$13 437 516.16
Australian Capital Territory	\$2 075 232.00	nil	\$2 075 232.00
Victoria	\$11 053 109.20	\$114 213.80	\$10 938 895.40
Tasmania	\$11 972 094.30	\$10 627.27	\$11 961 467.03
South Australia	\$7 032 992.10	\$5 735.91	\$7 027 256.19
Western Australia	\$8 675 661.64	\$246.36	\$8 675 415.28
Northern Territory	\$4 230 561.07	nil	\$4 230 561.07
Multistate	\$8 943 328.37	\$91 405.32	\$8 851 923.05
External Territories	\$890 000.00		\$890 000.00
EXPENDITURE	\$82 209 519.76		
REFUNDS TOTAL		\$302 805.58	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			\$81 906 714.18

STATE/TERRITORY	PAYMENTS	REFUNDS	TOTAL
General Fund	\$49 006 611.96	\$206 672.99	\$48 799 938
Building Additional Regional Networks (BARN)	\$9 783 935.00		\$9 783 934
Local Government	\$21 509 270	\$11 132.59	\$21 498 135
Islands	\$1 564 672		\$1 564 672
Internet Access	\$300 777.00	\$85 000.00	\$215 777
Mobile Phone – SA	\$44 251.81		\$44 252
EXPENDITURE	\$82 209 519.76		
REFUNDS TOTAL		\$302 805.58	\$81 906 714.18
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			

Annex F

Consultants engaged by the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts in 2001–02.

There were no new consultants employed by Networking the Nation in the period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2000.

The requirements for the employment of consultants is as follows:

Justification (only required if contract was let to the value of \$10 000 or more)

Select one of the following for each entry:

- (a) Departmental staff with the specialised skills or knowledge needed to perform the task were not available within the required time frame.
- (b) There were no staff within the Department with the specialised skills or knowledge needed to perform the task.
- (c) Independent advice was required.

Selection Process Used (only required if contract was let to the value of \$10 000 or more)

Select one of the following for each entry:

- (1A) Selective tender (a number of firms were invited to quote/ tender).
- (1B) Direct engagement (only one firm was invited to quote/ tender).
- (1C) Public tenders invited (advertised in the Gazette on the Government Advertising website).

Other matters

* An estimated amount added for Goods and Services Tax.

The following is a list of consultants engaged by the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts for NTN in previous financial years but still under engagement during 2001–02 in the period: 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.

Reference No.	Company name	Task performed	Commissioned cost \$ Ex GST	Expenditure for 2001–02-FY	GST for 2001–02 FY
PO 4503515	Wizard Information Services Pty Ltd	Provide continuing maintenance and development of the NTN Program's electronic data networking requirements, to facilitate the management and evaluation of grants. (1B) (b)	231 821.96	35 878.26	3 587.82
2000/1938	KPMG	Provide internal auditing services to the Department. (a) (1c)	14 770.00	16 247.00	1 477.00
2000/1904	Distributed Systems Technology Centre Pty Ltd	Provide a technical analysis of selected grant applications under the NTN	130 000.00	40 412.73	2 241.27
2000/1903	PriceWaterhouse-Coopers	Provide financial advice about the financial viability and business planning of proposals put forward by applicants to the NTN.	105 000.00	32 291.25	3 229.13
1998/1666	Purdon Associates Pty Ltd	Assist the Secretariat of the Regional Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund with the development and evaluation of the NTN Program.	780 000.00	0.00	0.00
		Total commissioned cost	1 261 591.96		
		Total expenditure during 2001–02		124 829.24	10 535.22
		Total consultants engaged in previous financial years but still under engagement during 2001–02	5		

