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Qantas puts on extra flight out of Alice Springs

Tourism Minister, Malarndirri McCarthy today welcomed Qantas’ decision to send an extra Boeing 737 from Brisbane to Alice Springs to help stranded passengers in the wake of the Qantas grounding its entire fleet worldwide.

“The extra aircraft has 168-seat capacity and will fly from Alice Springs to Melbourne at 1:00pm today,” she said.

“I have been in constant discussions with Qantas NT Manager, Julian Barry throughout this crisis and I commend him for the efforts he has made in securing this extra flight.

“Alice Springs is particularly vulnerable as Qantas and Qantaslink are the only carriers that service the town, and I have been working hard with Julian Barry to assist the people of Alice Springs.

“As well the hundreds of tourists stranded in the Alice, there are also 300 doctors who were attending a conference there and it’s extremely important we get them to their home communities and to their patients.

“Qantas has advised that the passenger backlog in the Territory will be cleared today.”

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