The Minister for Health and Community Services today announced a range of measures designed to attract and keep nurses in the Territory.

Mrs Aagaard said part of rejuvenating the Territory health system was to make sure that we attract and keep the nurses we need.

"So far we have implemented a seven per cent salary increase with a further four per cent increase next year," she said.

"We have also given a $300 annual professional development allowance and increased night penalty rates from 15 per cent to 20 per cent.

"In addition we are currently considering a range of other incentives such as recruitment and career development strategies.

"These could include funding for undergraduate and specialist post graduate training assistance, funding for a re-entry program for former nurses wishing to return to nursing and a web site specifically addressing job opportunities for nurses in the Territory.

"There is currently a national shortage of trained nurses and we must be competitive if we are to recruit and retain nurses.