

About the House

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Our crumbling coast: time for action

A new report by the House of Representatives Climate Change Committee is calling for a more coordinated response to the impact of climate change on coastal communities. Following a detailed investigation, the committee's report makes 47 recommendations including the need for an Intergovernmental Agreement on the Coastal Zone. 'It's one thing to read about the science, but another to see first hand, as we did, the obvious and early negative consequences of climate change on our coastal zone,' says Committee Chair Jennie George. To download a copy of the report, go to www.aph.gov.au/ccwea or email ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4580.

Public hearing on productivity growth

The House Economics Committee is holding a public hearing in Canberra this Friday 30 October as part of its inquiry into raising the rate of productivity growth in the Australian economy. The rate of productivity growth is vital to our future living standards, and anyone is invited to attend Friday's hearing at 9.15 am in Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House. For more information visit www.aph.gov.au/economics or email economics.reps@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4587.

Australia's relations with Africa

Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee has announced a new inquiry into Australia's relations with Africa. The inquiry will explore a range of issues such as economic opportunities, security, development assistance co-operation and capacity building. The closing date for submissions is 11 December 2009. To view the terms of reference visit www.aph.gov.au/jfadt or email jscfadt@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 2313.

From Tarin Kowt to Brisbane and Townsville

As part of its inquiry into the proposed redevelopment of Tarin Kowt Stage One Project in Afghanistan by the Department of Defence, the Public Works Committee is holding a public hearing at Parliament House in Canberra tomorrow, Thursday 29 October. The Public Works Committee will then shift its focus to Queensland, with hearings next Wednesday 4 November in Brisbane into the Department of Defence's Enhanced Land Force Stage 2 project, and on Thursday 5 November in Townsville looking at the proposed upgrade of facilities at the Australian Institute of Marine Science at Cape Ferguson and Townsville. For more information on these inquiries visit www.aph.gov.au/pwc or email pwc@aph.gov.au or phone (02) 6277 4636.

Free magazine

Get your free copy of the About the House magazine by emailing liaison.reps@aph.gov.au or phone freecall 1800 139 299. The current edition includes features on our crumbling coastline, combating cyber crime, farming with soil carbon, improving our long term weather forecasting and Australia's growing obesity problem. For the latest news from the House of Representatives and its committees visit www.aph.gov.au/ath where you can find video news items and audio clips on the latest public inquiries, as well as replays of Question Time.

