

Chair: Senator Louise Pratt

Committee to attend inaugural Australian Small Islands Forum

30 April – 2 May 2012

The Joint Committee on the National Capital and External Territories is to attend the inaugural Australian Small Islands Forum on Lord Howe Island from 30 April – 2 May 2012.

The Forum will be opened by Committee Chair, Senator Louise Pratt, who is representing the Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Simon Crean.

Attending the Forum will give Members the chance to meet with representatives from those communities and hear first hand about current issues of concern to them.

The Committee will also hold a public hearing during the Forum to canvass economic development, sustainability, governance, relations with the Commonwealth and other issues.

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories is the only committee in the Parliament with a mandate to cover issues relating to Australia's external territories.

Public Hearing Details	
Committee:	Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
Venue	School Library, Lord Howe Island Central School
Date:	Monday 30 April
Time:	4.30 – 6.00 pm (4.00 – 5.00 pm AEST)
Webcast:	The hearing will be webcast live on http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Senator Louise Pratt on 0448 264 129. **For background information:** Please contact the committee secretariat: Phone: (02) 6277 4564 Email: <u>iscncet@aph.gov.au</u>Website: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm