



Hearings continue on economic development in the Indian Ocean Territories

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories will continue to examine prospects for economic development in the Indian Ocean Territories at a public hearing with the Director of National Parks and Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Committee Chair, Mr Luke Simpkins MP said, "Residents have told us that the reduced immigration detention centre activity on Christmas Island has had a big impact on the local economy. The Committee wants to discuss how tourism can further contribute to the local economy."

He says, "The Christmas Island National Park covers two-thirds of the island and is a drawcard for tourists. While many people know about the famous annual red crab migration, they may not know that Christmas Island is also one of the best places in the world to see tropical seabirds and to scuba-dive."

PUBLIC HEARING DATE **Thursday 25 June 2015**

VENUE **Committee Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra**

PROGRAM:	10:00 am	Chair's opening statement
	10:05 am	Mr John Sorensen (by teleconference)
	10:15 am	Director of National Parks
	10:50 am	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
	11:25 am	Close.

Members of the public are welcome to observe proceedings.

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Luke Simpkins on 0417 473 921.

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

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