



Former Norfolk Island Administrator talks reform

Former Norfolk Island Administrator Neil Pope will outline his views on the need for major reform to a parliamentary inquiry into the island's future economic development.

The Hon Neil Pope finished his two year post as Norfolk Island Administrator in June this year. He will speak to the Committee about his experiences on island and what he thinks needs to be done to improve its economic prospects.

In his written submission to the inquiry Mr Pope proposed an ambitious plan for reform, over a one to five year timeframe.

"There is little point in merely bringing in the Australian taxation and benefit scheme, without a change in the governance arrangements, as this in itself will not make Norfolk sustainable," he said.

Chair Luke Simpkins said that this will be the committee's final public hearing.

"It seems appropriate that we end the hearings for this inquiry with evidence from Neil Pope who is regarded as having done an excellent job as Administrator and someone who cares passionately about the sustainability of Norfolk Island into the future," he said. "We look forward to discussing his views on a range of matters affecting the island's economic direction and opportunities ahead."

The committee will also hear from a consultant at WorleyParsons on the costings and designs for the Cascade Jetty upgrade. The \$13 million infrastructure project is critical to making the jetty safer and more efficient at transferring people and goods.

PUBLIC HEARING Committee Room 1R6

9:05 am	Mr Simon Batt, WorleyParsons
9:15 am	Close
10:00 am	The Hon. Neil Pope
11:00 am	Close.

Submissions to the inquiry and hearing transcripts are available from the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/ncet

The hearing will be webcast at www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Luke Simpkins on (02) 6277 4009 or 0410 976 919.

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

Phone: (02) 6277 4355 Email: jscncet@aph.gov.au Website www.aph.gov.au/ncet