



Boosting tourism to Norfolk Island

Opportunities to increase Norfolk Island's tourist numbers will be discussed at an upcoming public hearing as part of a parliamentary inquiry into the future of the island's economic development.

The National Capital and External Territories Committee is investigating ways Norfolk Island can broaden its economic base, including redressing barriers to tourism.

At tomorrow's hearing the Tourism and Transport Forum and Carnival Australia will give evidence to the committee about the potential to boost tourist numbers to Norfolk Island.

Carnival Australia carries more than 70 percent of the 800,000 Australians who take a cruise ship holiday each year, and is the only group that brings superliners to Norfolk Island.

PUBLIC HEARING

Date: Friday 6 June 2014
Time: 9:00 am to 10:30 am
Venue: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra.

Chair Luke Simpkins said when the committee visited Norfolk Island in late April, it met with the Norfolk Island Government, visited business owners and spoke with many residents about the economic challenges and opportunities that Norfolk Island faces.

"One of the themes to emerge was the critical need to improve infrastructure, including better port facilities, to allow for more cruise ship visits," he said.

"I look forward to discussing this and other ways to increase tourism."

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

The hearing will also 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