



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities

Inquiry into the Commonwealth Government's role in the sustainable development of cities

Issue date: Monday, 14 August 2017

A tale of two cities

TUESDAY, 15 AUGUST 2017

The [Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet](#) will appear before the [Infrastructure, Transport and Cities Committee](#) in Canberra tomorrow to discuss the Australian Government's plans to develop Launceston and Townsville.

At opposite ends of the country, the two cities are both subject to City Deals which aim to deliver transformative social and economic development through intergovernmental cooperation and strategic investment.

The Department's appearance is part of the Committee's inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities.

Committee Chair, [Mr John Alexander OAM MP](#), said it's very important that the future of Australian cities is considered in conjunction with regional centres.

"Regional centres like Launceston and Townsville are just as important to the future prosperity of Australia as capital cities like Sydney or Melbourne," Mr Alexander said.

"Australia's cities and regional centres are interconnected on both an economic and social level. We need to ensure regional centres develop at the same pace as our capital cities and we're interested in hearing how the government's City Deals aim to achieve this."

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet said, "City Deals focus on leveraging cities' unique strengths and responding to their specific needs".

"Instead of nationwide policy programs delivered by different departments, negotiations with local stakeholders produce a unified deal that addresses a city's priorities."

Public hearing details: 5.00 PM – 6.30 PM, TUESDAY 15 AUGUST, COMMITTEE ROOM 1R3, PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

5.00 PM – 6.30 PM: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

6.30 PM: *Close*

The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live

Further information on the inquiry, including the full [terms of reference](#), is available on the [Committee website](#).



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House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities

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Interested members of the public may wish to track the inquiry via the Committee's [website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.