



Committee to scrutinise service delivery in the Indian Ocean Territories

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories will examine Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands communities' access to services as part of its inquiry into governance in the Indian Ocean Territories.

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Services is responsible for administering the Indian Ocean Territories and ensuring effective service delivery, through Service Delivery Arrangements it has with the Western Australian Government.

Committee Chair, Mr Luke Simpkins MP said, "many residents have expressed frustration and dissatisfaction with these service delivery arrangements, despite significant Commonwealth funding being dedicated to them over a long time."

"The Committee wants to know how these arrangements work, whether residents are consulted meaningfully in the process, and how issues are addressed by the Department when they are raised by the community."

"Like other Australians living on the mainland, residents in the Indian Ocean Territories should have access to services that adequately meet their needs."

PUBLIC HEARING DATE **Thursday 14 May**

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

| | | |
|-----------------|----------|---|
| PROGRAM: | 10:00 am | Chair's opening statement |
| | 10:05 am | Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development |
| | 11:30 am | Close. |

Members of the public are welcome to observe proceedings.

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Luke Simpkins on 0433 286 770.

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

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