

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT Indigenous Law and Justice Inquiry Issued: 21 June 2005

Chair: Bob Baldwin MP Deputy Chair: Sharon Grierson MP

Report 403 to be tabled tomorrow

Access of Indigenous Australians to Legal Services

The federal parliament's Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit will table *Report 403: Access of Indigenous Australians to Legal Services* in Parliament House tomorrow afternoon (22 June, 2005).

The 113-page report into the legal services available for Indigenous Australians completes an inquiry commenced in March last year during the previous parliament.

The Committee took evidence from public hearings across Australia in Canberra, Sydney, Darwin, Alice Springs, Adelaide, Dubbo and Perth.

The Committee also travelled to the remote community of Yuendumu in the Northern Territory to see first hand some of the conditions in which community-based preventative and diversionary initiatives are being implemented.

The inquiry received 44 submissions and 51 exhibits, as well as other correspondence.

For media comment: please contact Committee Chair Bob Baldwin (Member for Paterson, NSW) on telephone (02) 6277 4200 (parliament), (02) 4983 1330 (electorate office) or mobile 0421 057 555 (from 5:30am for radio interviews).

For **more information**, contact the inquiry secretary on telephone (02) 6277 4615 or visit the Committee's website at <u>www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/atsis/</u>