



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities

Inquiry into the Australian Government's role in the development of cities

Issue date: Thursday, 22 March 2018

Wollongong – leading the world

Wollongong's significant population and its economic transformation from heavy industry to the knowledge-based sector offers many competitive advantages to the businesses based there. The [Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Cities](#) will explore these advantages and discuss strategies to further develop Wollongong – and other regional centres – during site inspections and a public hearing in Wollongong this Friday.

Committee Chair, [Mr John Alexander OAM MP](#), said the Committee's inquiry has a strong focus on promoting development and private investment in regional centres.

"We are examining the Australian Government's role in refocussing urbanisation on regional centres and are interested in examining the factors critical to Wollongong's success with the hope they may be applied elsewhere," Mr Alexander said.

Committee Deputy Chair, [the Hon. Sharon Bird MP](#), said the Committee is also interested in learning about the world class cities research underway the University of Wollongong.

"There is some very important work being done by Wollongong University institutes such as the Sustainable Building Research Centre or the SMART Infrastructure Facility," Ms Bird said.

"The Sustainable Building Research Centre is particularly focussed on retrofitting existing buildings to enhance their sustainability, which is critical to lowering carbon emissions in cities.

"Similarly, the SMART Infrastructure Facility has state-of-the-art laboratories working with public data to identify the infrastructure of the future."

Public hearing details: 9.30 am – 2.50 pm, Friday 23 March 2018, Level 9 Function Room, Wollongong City Council, 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong

9.30 am: [Wollongong City Council](#)

10.10 am: SMART Infrastructure Facility, University of Wollongong

11.10 am: [Regional Development Australia—Illawarra](#)

11.50 am: [Healthy Cities Illawarra](#)

1.30 pm: [Dr Lyn Phillipson & Dr Chris Brennan-Horley, University of Wollongong](#)

2.10 pm: [University of Wollongong \(AUSCCER\) - University of Sydney \(Architecture, Design & Planning\)](#)

2.50 pm: *Close*

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



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

Media enquiries:

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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.