



Indigenous alcohol inquiry travels to Western Australia

The House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs will be holding hearings in Western Australia, as it continues to gather evidence for the inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The Committee will hold public hearings in Perth, Broome and Halls Creek as well as visiting Fitzroy Crossing from Monday 30 June to Wednesday 2 July.

The Committee Chair, Dr Sharman Stone MP, said “The Committee is aware that there are many groups in WA who are working to reduce the harm caused by alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. Their evidence will be important.”

‘Evidence from Western Australia suggests that where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are involved in developing strategies of harm minimisation and treatment for alcohol misuse, and where links to family and culture are maintained, programs have achieved greater success.’ Dr Stone said.

‘Hearings such as these allow the Committee to explore in depth what is successful, particularly in terms of community-led strategies and local initiatives.’ she added.

Details of the hearings are as follows:

Perth

Monday 30 June 2014
9.00am – 4.15pm
Legislative Assembly Committee Office
Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth, WA

Broome

Tuesday 1 July 2014
1.00pm to 5.00pm
Mangrove Resort Hotel
47 Carnarvon Street, Broome, WA

Halls Creek

Wednesday 2 July 2014
1.00pm to 3.30pm
Council Chambers
Shire of Halls Creek
Halls Creek, WA

Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The terms of reference are available at www.aph.gov.au/indigenousaffairs

The proceedings will be audio webcast live on: www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair Dr Sharman Stone MP on (03) 5821 5371. **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 62774559 or indigenousaffairs.reps@aph.gov.au