Issued: 19 August 2015

Chair: Luke Simpkins MP

Committee to examine land management in the Indian Ocean Territories

The National Capital and External Territories Committee will examine Crown land management, local planning processes and the prospects for economic development on Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands as part of its inquiry into governance in the Indian Ocean Territories.

Local government representatives from the Indian Ocean Territories will participate via teleconference in a public hearing to be held in Canberra tomorrow.

Committee Chair, Mr Luke Simpkins MP said, "access to land, together with clear policy and processes that support development are essential to improve investor confidence and increase opportunities for tourism and other industries in the Indian Ocean Territories' economy."

PUBLIC HEARING DATE Thursday 20 August 2015

VENUE Committee Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra

PROGRAM: 10:35 am Chair's opening statement

10:40 am Shire of Christmas Island

11:05 am Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands

11:30 am Close.

Members of the public are welcome to observe proceedings.

The hearing will also be webcast at www.aph.gov.au/live.

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

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

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