

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE  
NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES**

Report of the visit to Norfolk Island

Chair: Senator Louise Pratt

# Norfolk Island—the way ahead

## —Making Progress under the Norfolk Island Road Map—

The National Capital Committee today tabled its report on its recent visit to Norfolk Island in the House of Representatives. The report focuses on recent progress under the Norfolk Island Road Map—the framework under which the Australian and Norfolk Island Governments are working together to provide for the economic sustainability and social cohesion and resilience of Norfolk Island.

The report recommends that the commitment of the Norfolk Island Government and the Australian Government to reform should be documented in a joint statement and timetable. This timetable should document the legislative changes required of both the Norfolk Island and Australian Governments to improve governance and administration and integrate Norfolk Island into the Australian taxation and welfare system.

It further recommends that any timetable should be predicated on the Norfolk Island Government introducing its own revenue streams (such as municipal rates), immigration reforms and divestiture of their Government Business Enterprises.

Committee Chair, Senator Louise Pratt, noted that the Committee had found its visit to Norfolk Island productive, giving the Committee an appreciation of the problems facing Norfolk Island from the community's perspective and the widespread commitment to reform. She stated that 'the Committee was pleased to find that the Norfolk Island Government and the Legislative Assembly both publicly committed themselves to the Road Map process and that the Norfolk Island community broadly had embraced the need for change'.

The Committee has restated its view that the Road Map, to which both the Australian and Norfolk Island Governments have made public commitments, remains the best way forward for the community on Norfolk Island.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Senator Louise Pratt, on (02) 6277 3127

**Copies of the report** can be obtained from the committee's webpage at

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House\\_of\\_Representatives\\_Committees?url=ncet/norfolkvisit2013/report.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=ncet/norfolkvisit2013/report.htm)

or by contacting the secretariat on (02) 6277 4355, or by email at [jscncet@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscncet@aph.gov.au)