Health Committee to investigate infectious disease issues on Christmas Island

The diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases on Christmas Island and other regional processing centres will be the focus of a parliamentary roundtable to be held on Christmas Island on 21 November.

The House of Representatives Health Committee will travel to the island to inspect the health facilities operating in immigration detention centres and the local hospital. The committee will also conduct a public roundtable on the island, as part of the inquiry into *Health issues across international borders.*

Committee Chair Steve Georganas MP said the committee is reviewing the screening processes and health services available on Christmas Island to treat people diagnosed with an infectious disease while in immigration detention.

"The committee is inquiring into Australia's ability to prevent the importation of infectious disease across international borders. Rigorous quarantine operations and health screening on Christmas Island assist in controlling the spread of imported infectious disease into Australia," Mr Georganas said.

The committee will hear from representatives of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, International Health and Medical Services, and the Indian Ocean Territories Health Service during the roundtable.

Program

EVENT: Health and Ageing Committee
Public roundtable into health issues across international borders

VENUE: Recreation Centre, Christmas Island

TIME: 1:30pm to 3:30pm

For media comment, please contact the Office of Steve Georganas on (08) 8376 9000.

For all other enquiries, please contact the Committee Secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 4145 or visit the inquiry website: www.aph.gov.au/internationalhealth

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