



## Inquiry into Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories

Federal Parliament's External Territories Committee chaired by Senator Lightfoot is to conduct an inquiry into current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands.

In particular the Committee will consider:

- accountability and transparency of decision-making in relation to the Indian Ocean Territories;
- the role of the Shire of Christmas Island and the Shire of Cocos (Keeling) Islands;
- aspirations of the residents of Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands for more representative governance arrangements;
- the link between more effective governance and improved economic sustainability for the Indian Ocean Territories;
- the operation of Western Australian applied laws;
- community service delivery including the effectiveness of service delivery agreements with the Western Australian Government; and
- proposals for reform of governance arrangements.

The Committee intends to conduct public hearings in Canberra, Perth, and on Christmas and Cocos (Keeling) Islands at dates to be advised.

Written submissions are sought from interested persons and organisations. Submissions should be lodged in writing or by email by Friday 15 July 2005 and addressed to:

The Committee Secretary  
National Capital and  
External Territories Committee  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Ph: (02) 6277 4355  
Fax: (02) 6277 8478  
Email: [jscncet@aph.gov.au](mailto:jscncet@aph.gov.au)

Further details, including guidelines on making a submission, can be obtained from the Committee's web site at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet) or by contacting the secretariat.

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