

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

Review of Australia's Indian Ocean Territories

Chair: Senator Louise Pratt

**NCET Committee to examine issues affecting
Australia's Indian Ocean Territories****12.45pm - 1.30pm, Wednesday, 28 November 2012**

The National Capital and External Territories Committee will question the Department of Regional Australia, Local Government, Arts and Sport about current developments in Australia's Indian Ocean Territories at a public hearing on Wednesday, 28 November 2012 from 12.45 to 1.45 pm in **Committee Room 2S1**, Parliament House, Canberra.

Review of policies affecting the Indian Ocean Territories is an important part of the Committee's role. This hearing will provide an opportunity for the Committee to follow up with the Department on a number of issues raised by the communities on Christmas Island and the Cocos (Keeling) Islands during the Committee's recent visit to the Indian Ocean Territories.

Committee Chair, Senator Louise Pratt, stated that the communities on the islands had raised a significant number of important issues with the Committee which needed to be addressed. "In particular, community members highlighted the impact on the island communities of the influx of boat arrivals, and the stresses this placed on local resources," she said.

The hearings will provide an opportunity to canvass these issues and point the way to possible solutions in the interests of the local communities and the Australian community as a whole.

Public Hearing Details

- Committee:** Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
- Venue** Committee Room 2S1, Parliament House, Canberra
- Date:** Wednesday, 28 November 2012
- Time:** 12.45 to 1.30pm
- Webcast:** The hearing will be webcast live on <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Senator Louise Pratt on 0448 264 129.

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

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