



INQUIRY INTO CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Public Hearing on constitutional
recognition of local government**

At its upcoming public hearing in Sydney, the Committee will be exploring the possible consequences of changing the Australian Constitution to provide for the financial recognition of local government. Following the findings of an independent expert panel, the Committee has been charged with investigating the potential success of a referendum on this issue.

The Committee will be asking for evidence about and views on the proposed amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution which would read (proposed new words in italics):

The Parliament may grant financial assistance to any State *or to any local government body formed by State or Territory Legislation* on such terms and conditions as the Parliament sees fit.

The Committee has already been receiving submissions to the inquiry: these can be found at [http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary Business/Committees/House of Representatives Committees?url=jsclg/localgovt/subs.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=jsclg/localgovt/subs.htm).

The full terms of reference are available on the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jsclg and submissions addressing the terms of reference must be received by 15 February 2013.

Date: Wednesday, 16 January 2013

Time: 9.15am – 3.30pm
Program is listed below.

Venue: Macquarie Room, NSW Parliament House, Macquarie Street, Sydney

Webcast: Live on [http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)
(audio only)

For media comment: contact the Chair's media advisor, Nick Trainor on 0407 078 138.
For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4044 or, by email: jsclg@aph.gov.au

Public Hearing Program

Time	Witness
9.15am	Roundtable 1 - Constitutional issues (experts)
10.00am	Roundtable 2 - Considerations for a successful outcome (experts)
<i>10.45am</i>	<i>morning tea</i>
11.00am	Australian Local Government Association
12.00pm	Victorian Local Governance Association
12.15pm	Local Government Association of Queensland
<i>12.30pm</i>	<i>lunch</i>
1.15pm	South Australian Government
1.45pm	Queensland Government
2.15pm	Roundtable 3 - Administrative and legislative arrangements (Commonwealth agencies)
<i>3.30pm</i>	<i>close</i>