

**MEDIA RELEASE – GERRY WOOD CHAIR NT COUNCIL OF TERRITORY  
CO-OPERATION**

**PUBLIC HEARING 13 - 14 DECEMBER 2010**

**TO INQUIRE INTO CHILD PROTECTION, SIHIP DWELLINGS, PROGRESS  
WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM AND ‘WORKING FUTURE’.**

The Council of Territory Co-operation (CTC) will hold two days of public hearings on 13 & 14 December 2010. Gerry Wood said today "at our Public Hearing tomorrow afternoon the CTC will begin to focus its inquiries into the NT Government's response to the *Growing them strong, together Report*."

Child Protection will be the focus of the CTC inquiries on the afternoon of 13 December. The NT Children's Commissioner DR Howard Bath will be the first witness appearing at 1.00 pm. Dr Bath appeared before the CTC earlier this year while the inquiry into Child Protection was being conducted, he is one of co-authors of the report.

"I and the other members look forward to welcoming Dr Bath back to the CTC and to hear his views now the Inquiry has completed its work and the results are in the public domain" said Gerry Wood. He went on to explain that "at his previous appearance before the CTC gave CTC members insight into the scale of the problems we confront in the Territory". John Paterson AMSANT's Executive Officer will also be appearing along with Jeffrey Moffet as a representative of the Chief Executives Taskforce on Child Protection.

The following day, 14 December, will again see the Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services appear before the CTC focussing on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program, local government reform and Working Future.

[www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/parliament.shtml](http://www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/parliament.shtml)

**Contact for comment: Gerry Wood – 0428 698 037**

The public hearings will be held at the Litchfield Room, Level 3 of Parliament House.

Mr Wood MLA welcomes all members of the public to attend.

Copy of Program for CTC Public Hearing is attached.

;

[www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/parliament.shtml](http://www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/parliament.shtml)

**Contact for comment: Gerry Wood – 0428 698 037**