



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

COUNCIL OF TERRITORY CO-OPERATION

24 February 2010

The Council of Territory Co-operation releases its first report

The Chair of the CTC Gerry Wood today tabled in parliament the Council's first report since its establishment in October 2009. It examines the issues the CTC has investigated from its first public hearing in Darwin in November, followed by the hearings held in Tennant Creek, Alice Springs and Katherine, to the end of the calendar year.

The CTC intends to report regularly to the Legislative Assembly. The findings from those hearings held during January and February this year will be presented in the next report.

Set up as a parliamentary committee as a means of facilitating greater levels of collaboration in the governance of the Territory, the CTC established its first priorities as the Strategic Indigenous Housing and Infrastructure Program – SIHIP, the local government reforms to amalgamate local councils into super shires and Working Futures, the Government's program to deliver better services and facilities to the 20 designated Territory Growth Towns. This decision was made in recognition of the overlapping of areas of interest in these three programs.

"All these programs are long term initiatives and ongoing", said Mr Wood, "so the CTC's scrutiny will also be ongoing as the programs are rolled out."

In all the report makes 21 recommendations about ways to address the issues identified during the Council's first hearings.

Mr Wood says "The recommendations include calling for the return to original figures released by the Commonwealth Govt for refurbishments and rebuilds and streamlining the process of taking over completed houses and placing new tenants in them. The NT Government is also asked to immediately finalise the audit on roads and identify with shires those to be handed over to the shires with appropriate funding and to resolve the status of road corridors to growth towns through Aboriginal Trust Land."

A copy of the report can be accessed once tabled from the CTC's website at www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliament/parliament.shtml.

For more information, please contact Pat Hancock on 8946 1429.

GERRY WOOD MLA – Chair

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