Adam Giles  
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Peter Chandler  
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

**Parliamentary Committee to investigate Ice**

24 March 2015

The Territory Government is moving to establish a Parliamentary Committee to investigate the prevalence and impacts of Ice use in our community, as well as the effectiveness of current Government responses to the drug.

“I have heard the community’s concern about the use of Ice in the Northern Territory and will tomorrow move a motion to set up a Parliamentary Select Committee to explore the issue,” Chief Minister Adam Giles said.

“I want Territorians to feel safe in our community and this committee will be tasked with looking at all the evidence and determining if there are ways we could be responding better to this issue.”

The Committee will investigate and report on data collection methods and whether they are adequate to accurately judge the scale of the Ice problem facing the community.

“Members will survey the various government responses to the abuse of Ice and their effectiveness,” Police Minister Peter Chandler said.

“The Committee will be seeking information from law enforcement on the sources of Ice in the Territory including cross border trafficking, local manufacturing and derivation from legal pharmaceuticals and other legal precursors.

“We also want to assess the social and community impacts of Ice in urban, community and remote settings and whether there are differences in the scale of the problem in these locations.”

The Committee will be asked to investigate what other states are doing in this space and what lessons we can learn from their experiences.

“On behalf of our frontline workers, the Committee will also be tasked with looking at best practice work place health and safety measures for health staff who come into contact with users of Ice,” Mr Chandler said.
In collating its report, the Committee will be expected to consult widely with Territorians and those organisations and professionals with experience in Ice use. They may also seek direct advice from other jurisdictions.

The Government proposes the Committee’s membership shall comprise the Member for Blain, Nathan Barrett (Chair), the Member for Arafura, Francis Kurrupuwu, the Member for Nhulunbuy, Lynne Walker and the Member for Nelson, Gerry Wood.

The committee is proposed to report back to Parliament by September.

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