Media Release

John Elferink
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

**Attorney-General welcomes anti-corruption motion**

26 August 2015

Attorney-General John Elferink welcomed the decision to step through the process of establishing an independent anti-corruption body in the Northern Territory.

The Country Liberals Government further welcomes the pragmatic selection process that was decided upon by the House.

“Yesterday I counselled against a partisan approach of the establishment of this committee and I am grateful that the leader of the opposition finally came around to this position,” Attorney-General John Elferink said.

“I was happy to see the member for Nelson sponsor a motion through the House, which all members of parliament were happy to endorse.

“We can now go through a process of selecting a person to review and give advice, and finally come forward with a vehicle to enhance this body.

“As the member for Nelson indicated, the two motions were similar and we did not want to play politics in the chamber.

“Today was a success for democracy.

“The Government continues to be committed to working together in the best interest of the people of the Northern Territory.”

The motion passed agreed that the appointed person will inquire into and report to the Administrator on the establishment of an anti-corruption and integrity commission, including indicative costs of suggested models.

The appointed person will consult with relevant stakeholders including but not limited to the NT Police, NT Law Society and the Criminal Lawyers Association.

Some of the considerations the appointed person will take into include:
- The power to investigate allegations of corruption including against Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly and other public officials
- The power to conduct investigations and inquiries into corrupt activities and system-wide anti-corruption reforms as it sees fit
- The applicability of an ICAC and like legislation in other jurisdictions in the Northern Territory
- The use of existing Northern Territory legislation or statutory authorities

The individual will be selected based on the process outlined in the *Review of the Processes for the appointment of Judicial Officers in the Northern Territory*, with the exception that the panel outlined in the process recommends one instead of two for consideration.

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