Media Release

John Elferink
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

**Motion introduced to appoint independent person to advise on anti-corruption model**

25 August 2015

Attorney-General John Elferink introduced a motion in Parliament today that would see an independent person appointed to advise the Territory Government regarding the establishment of an anti-crime commission in the Northern Territory.

The Government’s motion followed consultation with the Independent members of Parliament.

Mr Elferink said Government had opted to move forward with suggestions that an independent person be appointed to report on the model of the Anti-Corruption and Integrity Commission.

“The independent person will be asked to provide a report by December this year that considers a range of models and indicative costs of establishing an independent anti-corruption and misconduct body,” Mr Elferink said.

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

Some of the considerations to be considered include:

- Anti-Corruption and Integrity Commission models in other jurisdictions
- Whether a Special Prosecutor against Corruption and Misconduct (Special Prosecutor) should be added to any new Office
- Whether the penalties under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act* for failing to cooperate with the Commission are adequate
- That the powers of the new Commission be extended to provide ‘own motion’ investigations
- That existing powers under the Act be strengthened in relation to matters allegedly involving Members of the Legislative Assembly
The introduction, public feedback and debate of legislative changes will occur in the first quarter of 2016 with the implementation of a new Independent Anti-Corruption and Integrity Commission in the second quarter of 2016.

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