

Committee of Inquiry on Crofting

The Committee of Inquiry on Crofting is visiting the Outer Hebrides next week (Monday 4 June- Thursday 7 June 2007) as part of their Summer tour. The Committee will host four public meetings and are inviting everyone with an interest in the future of crofting communities to attend.

Public Meeting Information-

Monday 4th- Voluntary Action, Lewis

Tuesday 5th- Harris Hotel, Harris

Wednesday 6th- Dark Island Hotel, Uists

Thursday 7th- Castlebay Community School, Barra

All meetings commence at 7.15 pm

Professor Mark Shucksmith, Chair of the Inquiry, said "These meetings are an opportunity for the people of the Western Isles to let us know their views about the future of crofting. Last year's debates on the Crofting Reform Bill showed that people have strong views about such things as the regulation of assignments, absenteeism, and the neglect of crofts. Our Inquiry is seeking to hear people's views and to gather evidence of all sorts to inform our report. Everyone is welcome to attend, crofter or not"

The Committee of Inquiry on Crofting has been established by Ministers following the passing of the Crofting Reform Act in December 2006 and will identify and report on the features of crofting which distinguish it from other systems of land tenure and which are unique to the context of sustainable rural development in Scotland. Further details are available on the Inquiry's website at <http://croftinginquiry.org/>

Notes to editors:

If you would like further information please contact Sharon Lyons at Barkers PR on 0141 248 5030