



Community Bulletin

INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORIES

Sarah Vandebroek appointed as Deputy Administrator

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Relevant: Christmas Island and Cocos (Keeling) Islands

Topic: Australian Government appointment

Territories First Assistant Secretary Sarah Vandebroek from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts has been appointed Deputy Administrator of the Territory of Christmas Island (CI) and the Territory of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands (CKI).

Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, the Hon Kristy McBain MP, appointed Ms Vandebroek under the *Administration Ordinance 1968* (CI), and the *Administration Ordinance 1975* (CKI).

It is standard practice to have a Territories senior executive appointed as Deputy Administrator, to provide continuity in the Administrator functions, including during periods of leave. The appointment as Deputy Administrator will last for the duration of Ms Vandebroek's tenure as First Assistant Secretary of the Territories Division.

Ms Vandebroek was sworn in on 22 August 2022 and witnessed by Dr Rachel Bacon, Deputy Secretary, Regional, Cities and Territories Group who was authorised by Minister McBain to hear the Affirmation of Office.

The Administrator is the most senior Australian Government representative in the Indian Ocean Territories and is responsible for engaging with, and advocating on behalf of, the community. The role also has a range of statutory powers and functions relating to the delivery of government services on Island.

The current Administrator term ends on 4 October 2022. The Deputy Administrator's appointment will provide for continuity as needed while a merit-based process is undertaken to support Government consideration of the next appointment, with further information on this available in the near future.

Beth Duncan, Acting Assistant Secretary, Indian Ocean Territories Branch