



Next Reserve Bank hearing in Sydney

9.30am, Friday, 12 February 2016

The House Economics Committee has today tabled its second report on the *Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia Annual Report 2014*. This report follows a hearing with the Governor and other senior officials of the RBA on 18 September in Canberra.

The decision by the RBA board in September to leave official interest rates at 2.0 per cent was mainly in order to support borrowing and spending that will likely lead to better output growth as the Australian economy reaches the later phases of the decline in mining investment.

The Governor was optimistic about the Australian economy noting some of the non-mining sectors have shown significant improvements over the last 12 months and GDP growth was likely to exceed three per cent by June 2017.

Current labour conditions have generally been better than expected with unemployment likely to remain unchanged for about 18 months before declining in 2017. While there is still excess capacity in the labour market, indicators suggest conditions in the household and business service sector have been above average.

Committee Chair Craig Laundy MP said 'it is encouraging to note the Governor's view that underlying fundamentals of the economy have continued to improve. It is important that we continue to focus on jobs growth and business investment in the non-resources sector to encourage sustainable sources of GDP growth in response to the major adjustments occurring in Australia's economy.'

Public Hearing Details

Committee: House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics

Venue (to be advised) SYDNEY

Date: Friday, 12 February 2016

Time: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Webcast: The hearing will be webcast live on
[http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)

The report is available on the committee's website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/economics>

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