



Inquiry into proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Finance, Australian Capital Territory

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the Department of Finance's (Finance) proposed fit-out of new leased premises in the Australian Capital Territory.

Finance seeks approval for the fit-out of 20,502m² in a new building at One Canberra Avenue, Forrest, ACT. Finance told the Committee that the new accommodation will allow it to release all of its current Commonwealth leases, and a majority of its privately owned leases. It will be able to consolidate the majority of staff into a single tenancy, although some specialist staff will continue to be located offsite.

The Committee was told by Finance that there are clear operational advantages in consolidating the majority of its staff and functions into one modern and flexible building.

Finance says the new building in Forrest has been constructed with modern Commonwealth Government work practices in mind.

Subject to Parliamentary approval, the fit-out is scheduled to commence in March / April 2015 with completion scheduled for 1 July 2015.

The estimated cost of the proposal is \$32.066 million (excluding GST).

The Committee's Chair, Karen Andrews MP, said the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry in Canberra in early 2015.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Submissions to the inquiry close on 22 January 2015.

Full details of the public hearing will be announced early in 2015.

NB the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to Department of Defence.

For interview: Contact Mrs Andrew's office on (07) 5580 9111.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.