



# PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

## MEDIA RELEASE

**Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works**

New inquiry

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Issue date: 1 December 2016

## **Upgrade to Melbourne immigration facility under scrutiny**

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is conducting an inquiry into proposed upgrades at the Melbourne Immigration Transit Accommodation (MITA) facility in Broadmeadows, Victoria. The upgrades will provide 140 beds across two high security compounds as well as the necessary amenities and security infrastructure.

The Department of Immigration and Border Protection states that a recent trend towards a higher risk detention population means that the low-risk MITA facility must be upgraded to ensure the accommodation is suitable to house a range of detainees, including higher risk individuals. Upgrading the existing facility will reduce costs and increase efficiency while maintaining the safety of occupants through improved security measures. It will also provide a level of amenity that is consistent with other Australian immigration detention centres that accommodate higher risk detainees.

Works are expected to begin in March 2017 and be completed by October 2017. The estimated cost of the project is \$29.06 million (excluding GST).

It is anticipated that the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry early in 2017. Further information on the public hearing will be available soon.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/pwc](http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc)

The Committee would like to hear from all individuals or organisations interested in the inquiry.

**Submissions will be accepted until 19 January 2017.**

**NB:** *The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.*

### **Media enquiries:**

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### **For background:**

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

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