



## Improving Performance Reporting and Accountability

Parliament's Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) today tabled its second report into the Development of the Commonwealth Performance Framework.

The Framework informs the way government entities undertake their performance planning, tracking and reporting — improving both outcomes and accountability to Ministers, the Parliament and the public.

The Committee followed up on Finance's implementation of Committee recommendations made in JCPAA Report 453 which focused on performance reporting and also discussed Finance's delivery of the broader elements of the Public Management Reform Agenda (PMRA) – such as joined-up government and differential regulation.

The Committee also considered and approved two new sets of 2015-16 Annual Report Rules developed by the Department of Finance, for corporate and non-corporate Commonwealth entities. This is the first time the JCPAA has had responsibility for approval of the Rules for corporate entities.

The Committee has also re-emphasised its desire to see Annual Reports tabled in Parliament earlier and, in time, that this should be set by Parliament through legislative change.

Committee Chair, Hon. Ian Macfarlane MP, noted the significant reforms underway as part of the Commonwealth Performance Framework, and PMRA - advising the Committee had recommended that Finance provide a brief to the incoming Committee of the 45<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

"In this brief we have recommended that Finance look back at what has been achieved, as well as looks forward to what Finance hopes to achieve in Phase 3 of the PMRA." Mr Macfarlane said.

"We have also identified a range of issues relating to the content of entity Annual Reports that warrant further consideration, and these will be discussed in 2016", Mr Macfarlane concluded.

Copies of the report and further information about the inquiry can be accessed via the committee's website at [www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa](http://www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa).

**For media comment:** please contact Committee Chair's office on (02) 6277 4988.

**For information about the inquiry:** please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4615, email [jcpaa@aph.gov.au](mailto:jcpaa@aph.gov.au), or visit the committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa>.