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MEDIA RELEASE

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Tax and Revenue
Inquiry into the 2017 Annual Report of the Australian Taxation Office

Issue date: 22 August 2018

Annual report review: a fair and efficient ATO?

The [House Tax and Revenue Committee](#) will meet tomorrow with Australia's Taxation Commissioner and Senior Executive staff to discuss the Australian Taxation Office's adherence to procedural fairness under the Reinvention program.

The Committee's [review of the performance of the Australian Taxation Office \(ATO\)](#) for the 2016–17 has this year responded to calls for a more strategic review of ATO services to taxpayers.

While the ATO's 2017 Annual Report presents a positive report of progress in key operational areas, an undercurrent of community concern about technical function and fairness under the ATO's Reinvention program has put the Office under scrutiny.

The Committee Chair Mr Jason Falinski MP said "The Committee's review of ATO performance this year has involved a bottom-up and top-down assessment. The Committee has asked: 'What is the taxpayers' and their agents' experience of engagement with the ATO; and, is the information in the Annual Report accountable to that?'"

"Tomorrow, the Committee will hear from the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) about its 2017 review of the costs and benefits of the Reinvention program, and from the ATO about its response to recommendations made by the ANAO and by the Inspector-General of Taxation, in particular, in his reviews of the Taxpayers' Charter and on debt."

The meeting follows on from the hearing in June this year when the Committee investigated how regulatory philosophy documents such as the ATO's Taxpayers' Charter could enhance the regulator's accountability to taxpayers under the Reinvention program.

Public hearing details: 4.15pm to 5.45 pm—Wednesday 22 August 2018, Committee Room 2R1 Parliament House

The hearing will be broadcast live at Watch Parliament aph.gov.au/live.

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