



COAG Reform Council to appear before Committee

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit will hear from the COAG Reform Council as part of its inquiry into the \$45 billion paid to states and territories from national funding agreements at a public hearing today.

The COAG Reform Council was established to help COAG improve its reform agenda and it plays a key role in holding all governments accountable through independent monitoring, assessment and evaluation. In its recent progress report on the National Disability Agreement, the Reform Council stated that:

... out-of-date data for some indicators, the lack of any data for a number of further indicators, and the absence of agreed measures for others, make it difficult to determine whether progress has been made toward meeting COAG's overall objective. The council noted in its 2008-09 baseline report that options for the provision of more frequent survey data are being explored, and this should remain a priority.

Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP stated: "One of the many issues to emerge from the Committee's inquiry so far is the inadequacy of data upon which policy and reform decisions are based. Given the COAG Reform Council's findings in its progress report on the Disability Agreement, the Committee is keen to investigate with the Reform Council all the options which can be put in place to drive better data gathering and evaluation into the future."

The hearing will commence at **12:00 pm in Committee Room 2S1.**

A copy of the program can be found at

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcpaa/natagree/hearings.htm>

The inquiry's website can be found at

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcpaa/natagree/index.htm>

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP, on telephone (02) 6584 2911

For more information: for information about the hearing, please contact the Committee Secretary on telephone (02) 6277 4615.