



New Defence housing planned for Kellyville in Sydney

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed development and construction of new housing for Defence personnel at Kellyville in Sydney, NSW.

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) states that the proposed development would provide necessary housing for families of Defence personnel residing in Sydney near the RAAF Base Richmond. The proposal will provide 34 dwellings at Kellyville which will reduce the number of Defence personnel on rental assistance. 31 serviced allotments will be offered for sale to the general public as part of the project.

DHA proposes to commence construction in April 2013 and complete the dwellings by December 2014. The cost of the project is estimated at \$22.8 million. This cost will be recovered by the sale of individual lots and through DHA's Sale and Lease Back program.

The Committee's Chair, Janelle Saffin MP, said the Committee will examine the project and conduct a public hearing regarding the proposal on 8 August 2012.

"In the RAAF Base Richmond area of Sydney, 19 per cent of Defence families are receiving Rent Allowance. This is higher than the target of 15 per cent. The Kellyville development will assist DHA to reduce the proportion of Defence families in private rental accommodation."

"The Committee will scrutinise DHA's project to ensure that the project meets its designated purpose and offers value for money for the Commonwealth," Ms Saffin said.

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

Submissions to the inquiry close on Tuesday, 31 July 2012.

The Committee will be holding a public hearing on the proposed works in Sydney on 8 August 2012. Full details of the public hearing will be announced soon.

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 Defence Housing Australia.

For interview: Contact the Chair's media advisor, Lee Duncan on 0448 158 150.

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.