



Government KPI framework under review

The framework for the use of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) by Federal Government agencies will be the focus of a public hearing by a parliamentary committee on Wednesday.

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit is reviewing the initial results of a pilot audit by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). The pilot project aims to assess the state of the existing performance framework and to help develop a future ongoing program of agency KPI audits. The pilot trials new powers given to the Auditor-General in 2011 to explicitly audit agency KPIs, as had been previously recommended by the committee.

The Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP, said that the topic of performance measurement and reporting had been of long term interest to the committee, including through its May 2012 review of the development and implementation of KPI across government.

“Having clear, focused and measureable performance information is vital for informing governments and legislators about the effectiveness of programs. The committee’s previous work has found that agencies can do much better in this area”, Mr Oakeshott said.

The hearing will include discussion on the findings of the pilot and plans for ongoing reform of the KPI framework. Representatives from the ANAO and the Department of Finance and Deregulation will appear before the Committee on **Wednesday, 19 June 2013 from 12.15pm to 1 pm** in **Committee Room 2R1**, Parliament House, Canberra.

Also on Wednesday, the committee will hold a public hearing on a recent audit of the Energy Efficiency Information Grants (EEIG) program. The hearing will continue the committee’s previous history of scrutinising the administration of government grants programs.

The EEIG is a \$40 million grants program aimed at encouraging energy efficiency in business and non-profit organisations. Following an audit of the program’s first funding round, the Auditor-General found that, due to ‘significant shortcomings’ in the assessment process, it was ‘not possible to be satisfied that the most meritorious eligible applications ... were recommended to the Minister for approval’.

The hearing on the EEIG audit will take place from **11.30am to 12.15pm** and include representatives from the ANAO and the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism.

More information about the hearings can be found at the committee’s website www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa under ‘Review of Auditor-General’s Reports Nos 11 to 31 (2012–13)’.

The hearings will be broadcast live at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/live>

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

For information about the hearing: please contact the committee secretariat by telephone (02) 6277 4615, e-mail jcpaa@aph.gov.au, or visit the committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa>.