



Inquiry into Replacement of Chinook Facilities, Townsville

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the replacement of Chinook facilities at RAAF base Townsville.

The Department of Defence will replace the Australian Army's existing fleet of 'D Model' Chinook helicopters with seven 'F Model' Chinook helicopters. The new helicopters will address current and future capability deficiencies in the Chinook weapon system.

The Replacement Chinook Facilities project proposes to provide new and upgraded facilities to support the introduction and operations of the new F Model Medium Lift Helicopters and associated integration systems.

The facilities proposed include those directly associated with the storage, security and maintenance of the new helicopters, as well as facilities for the indirect capability requirements such as working accommodation, training needs and infrastructure engineering services works.

The estimated cost of the project is \$54.8 million.

The Committee's Chair, Karen Andrews MP, said the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry in Townsville on Thursday, 22 May 2014.

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

Submissions to the inquiry close on Thursday, 8 May 2014.

Full details of the public hearing will be announced in May.

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 Department of Defence.

For interview: Contact the Chair's office on (07) 5580 9111.

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.