



Committee examines public finance bill

A Bill that proposes to modernise the way money and performance are managed in public sector organisations will be the subject of a public hearing tomorrow by a joint parliamentary committee.

If passed, the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Bill 2013 will create a single Act to replace the two existing Acts regulating financial management and accountability in government departments, statutory authorities and other public entities.

The Bill was referred to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit on 16 May 2013 in order to “ensure that combining the two Acts into a single Act does not impose additional and unnecessary reporting requirements on bodies subject to the Act and does not reduce transparency or remove important oversight where it is appropriate”.

The Bill has arisen from the Department of Finance and Deregulation’s Commonwealth Financial Accountability Review (CFAR), which commenced in late 2010.

The public hearing will take place from **11.45am to 3.30pm (AEST)** on **Friday, 24 May 2013** in **Committee Room 2R1**, Parliament House, Canberra.

The hearing will include representatives of the following organisations and interested parties (in order of appearance):

- Department of Finance and Deregulation
- Australian National Audit Office; Australian Information Commissioner
- Australian War Memorial; Special Broadcasting Service; Australian Broadcasting Corporation; National Gallery of Australia
- Indigenous Business Australia; Uniting Care Australia
- Professor Kerry Jacobs; Professorial Fellow Bill Burmester; Mr Stephen Bartos; Institute of Chartered Accountants
- Australian Public Service Commissioner

More information about the hearing can be found at the committee’s website www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa under ‘Bill inquiries’.

The hearing 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>.