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## **Defence LAND 17 Phase 1A infrastructure project**

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the Department of Defence's LAND 17 Phase 1A infrastructure project.

The LAND 17 Phase 1A infrastructure project proposes to provide new and upgraded facilities to support the introduction of new artillery systems and provide facilities suited to the Australian Defence Force's resulting organisational changes. The proposed works would be undertaken at six Defence sites across Australia, namely Gallipoli and Lavarack Barracks in Queensland, Robertson Barracks in the Northern Territory, RAAF Base Edinburgh in South Australia, and Bridges and Gaza Ridge Barracks in Victoria.

The project is the infrastructure component of the LAND 17 capability project, designed to enhance the Australian Army's indirect fire support system. The project will be delivered in three phases, Phase 1A being the procurement of 35 M777-A2 lightweight towed guns, digital Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data Systems and munitions fuses.

The Committee's Chair, Janelle Saffin MP, said the Committee will inspect one of the sites and conduct a public hearing in relation to the proposed works on 6 December 2011.

"Defence submits that the proposed infrastructure works are driven by the requirement to support the LAND 17 initiative. This Defence initiative aims to substantially enhance the Army's artillery capability. The Committee will inspect one of the six sites for the project at Gallipoli Barracks in Queensland, as part of its inquiry into whether the wider project is fit for purpose and value for money for the Commonwealth".

Full details on the proposal are available on the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/pwc](http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc)

### **Submissions to the inquiry close on Friday, 25 November 2011.**

The Committee will be holding a public hearing on the proposed works in Brisbane on Tuesday, 6 December 2011. Further 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 the Department of Defence.

**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.