



New fit-out for Tax Office under spotlight

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into a proposed office fit-out for the Australian Taxation Office in Franklin Street, Adelaide.

The ATO proposes to fit-out new office accommodation for its entire staff currently working in the Adelaide central business district, at an estimated cost of \$52.9 million. The present accommodation is in three separate buildings, and the proposal would allow the Tax Office to implement more collaborative work practices, to provide uniform workspaces, and to realise administrative efficiencies. All of the ATO's three current leases will expire by mid-2014, and subject to parliamentary approval, the ATO proposes to occupy the new accommodation in 2012.

The Public Works Committee is responsible for ensuring that the need, cost and scope proposed is appropriate.

The Committee's Chair, Janelle Saffin MP, said the Committee is keen to hear a wide range of views on the proposed development and public submissions on the proposal are welcomed.

'The ATO proposal would provide a fit-out with high energy-efficiency, in a building with both 5 star NABERS and Green Star ratings,' Ms Saffin said. 'The Committee is concerned to ensure that this project meets the ATO's requirements, as well as being environmentally responsible. The Committee is keen to see how these two imperatives are met, whilst ensuring that the Commonwealth gets real value for its money.'

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

Submissions close on 12 November 2010.

The Committee will be holding a hearing on the proposal on 9 November 2010 in Adelaide.

Public Hearing – Members of the public are welcome to attend the hearing.

Venue: Rendezvous Allegra Hotel, 55 Waymouth Street, Adelaide
Date: Tuesday 9 November 2010
Time: 2.15pm

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 Australian Taxation Office.

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 0434 567 521.