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## **New Defence housing development planned for Lindfield in Sydney**

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed development and construction of new housing for Defence personnel at Lindfield in Sydney, NSW.

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) states the proposed housing development would provide necessary housing for families of Defence personnel working in the central Sydney area. DHA submits that it will provide 173 dwellings at Lindfield which will reduce the number of Defence personnel on rental assistance.

DHA anticipates that dwellings will be delivered commencing 2013-14, and the project would be complete in 2017. The total cost of the project is approximately \$202 million. This cost would be recovered through sale of individual lots to the general market and the sale of DHA constructed housing through its Sale and Lease Back program.

The Committee's Chair, Janelle Saffin MP, said the Committee will inspect the site and conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed Defence housing project in July 2012.

"Currently in central Sydney, the proportion of Defence families on rental assistance is 35.9 per cent, which is significantly higher than the Defence and DHA target of 15 per cent. Some 360 dwellings are needed to reduce that proportion to the required target. This project will assist DHA to significantly reduce the proportion of Defence families in private rental accommodation."

"It is the Committee's role to review the proposed development and construction of housing at the Lindfield site, to ensure the project meets its desired purpose and represents value for money for the Commonwealth", Ms Saffin said.

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 Thursday, 21 June 2012.**

The Committee will be holding a public hearing on the proposed redevelopment in Sydney in July. 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 Defence Housing Australia.

**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.