

Introduction

Background to the review

- 1.1 The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) has a statutory duty to examine all reports of the Auditor-General that are presented to the Australian Parliament, and report the results of its deliberations to both Houses of Parliament. In selecting audit reports for review, the Committee considers:
- the significance of the program or issues raised in the audit reports;
 - the significance of the audit findings;
 - the response of the audited agencies, as detailed in the audit report; and
 - the extent of any public interest in the audit report.
- 1.2 Over the period from November 2005 to August 2007, the Committee progressively considered all Auditor-General's reports from no. 43 2004-05 to no. 3 of 2007-08 inclusive. Of those audits, 25 were selected by the Committee for further detailed scrutiny at a series of public hearings.
- 1.3 Dates of the hearings are listed in each chapter of this report. Further details of the hearings, and submissions and exhibits received during the course of the reviews, are available through the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/jpaa.
- 1.4 The 25 audit reports reviewed by the JCPAA are listed below:
- Audit Report No. 45, 2004-05, *Management of Selected Defence System Program Offices*;
 - Audit Report No. 50, 2004-05, *Drought Assistance*;

- Audit Report No. 51, 2004-05, *DEWR's Oversight of Job Network Services to Job Seekers*;
- Audit Report No. 58, 2004-05, *Helping Carers: the National Respite for Carers Program*;
- Audit Report No. 3, 2005-06, *Management of the M113 Armoured Personnel Carrier Upgrade Project*;
- Audit Report No. 6, 2005-06, *Implementation of Job Network Employment Services Contract 3*;
- Audit Report No. 11, 2005-06, *The Senate Order for Departmental and Agency Contacts (Calendar Year 2004 Compliance)*;
- Audit Report No. 17, 2005-06, *Administration of the Superannuation Lost Members Register*;
- Audit Report No. 21, 2005-06, *Audit of Financial Statements of Australian Government Entities for the Period Ended 30 June 2005*;
- Audit Report No. 23, 2005-06, *IT Security Management*;
- Audit Report No. 27, 2005-06, *Reporting of Expenditure on Consultants*;
- Audit Report No. 28, 2005-06, *Management of Net Appropriation Agreements*;
- Audit Report No. 29, 2005-06, *Integrity of Electronic Customer Records*;
- Audit Report No. 31, 2005-06, *Roads to Recovery*;
- Audit Report No. 32, 2005-06, *Management of the Tender Process for the Detention Services Contract*;
- Audit Report No. 34, 2005-06, *Advance Passenger Processing*;
- Audit Report No. 41, 2005-06, *Administration of Primary Care Funding Agreements*;
- Audit Report No. 43, 2005-06, *Assuring Centrelink Payments – The Role of the Random Sample Survey Programme*;
- Audit Report No. 45, 2005-06, *Internet Security in Australian Government Agencies*;
- Audit Report No. 47, 2005-06, *Funding for Communities and Community Organisations*;
- Audit Report No. 49, 2005-06, *Job Placement and Matching Services*;

- Audit Report No. 12, 2006-07, *Management of Family Tax Benefit Overpayments*;
- Audit Report No. 24, 2006-2007, *Customs' Cargo Management Re-engineering Project*;
- Audit Report No. 29, 2006-2007, *Implementation of the Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997*; and
- Audit Report No. 37, 2006-2007, *Administration of the Health Requirement of the Migration Act 1958*.

The Committee's report

- 1.5 This report draws attention to the main issues raised at the respective public hearings. Each chapter deals with either an individual audit, or a group of audits related by subject. Where appropriate, the Committee has commented on unresolved or contentious issues, and has made recommendations. An electronic copy of this report is available on the Committee's website.
- 1.6 In a number of cases names and responsibilities of agencies reviewed have changed following the 2007 federal election. This report for the most part refers to the agencies as they stood at the time of the audit and the public hearing, although the Committee has endeavoured to address recommendations to the relevant contemporary agency.

