

27 March 2002

**SENATE FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEFENCE AND TRADE
REFERENCES COMMITTEE**

**INQUIRY INTO THE MATERIEL ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT
FRAMEWORK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE**

The Department of Defence's materiel acquisition framework is about to come under close scrutiny. The Senate has asked its Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee to examine the matter and report by the end of the year. Committee chair, Queensland Senator John Hogg, believes that the inquiry will lead to a valuable assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of major equipment projects.

'The inquiry will examine whether the materiel requirements of our defence forces are being met', said Senator Hogg. 'Timeliness and quality are important considerations in this matter, as is cost effectiveness. It is important that the acquisition and management systems of the Department are working as effectively as possible'.

Senator Hogg said that the inquiry would provide an opportunity to examine the progress of management and structural reforms instigated by the Department to improve materiel management and accountability.

The Committee will be advertising in the national press for written submissions that should be lodged with the Committee's secretariat by 11 June 2002. Full terms of reference are available on the Committee's website, or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 3536.

Enquiries:

Brenton Holmes
Secretary
Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Committee
Room S1.57
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Tel: 02 6277 3535
Email: Brenton.Holmes@aph.gov.au