

#### **Parliamentary Inquiries**

#### October 2014

Committee inquiries provide an opportunity for organisations and individuals to participate in policy making and have their views placed on the public record and considered as part of the decision-making process.

This Occasional Paper provides a brief overview of the new and continuing Senate, House and Joint Committee inquiries in the 44th Parliament. These inquiries are either still accepting submissions or are no longer accepting submissions but are yet to report.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on Parliamentary Committees and inquiries is available here.

The Hawker Britton guide to participating in Parliamentary inquiries is available <u>here</u>.

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#### **Senate Committees**

# Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Amendment (A Stronger Land Account) Bill 2014

Indigenous Land Corporation was set up with the Land Account 'to enable Indigenous people to acquire land and maintain it in a sustainable way to provide economic, social and cultural benefits for themselves and for future generations of their people'. The <u>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</u> <u>Amendment (A Stronger Land Account) Bill 2014</u> seeks to strengthen the account by clarifying the purpose of the Land Account; provide for excess returns from Land Account investments to be equally shared between the Account and the ILC, among other measures.

The closing date for submissions was 29 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 29 October 2014.

#### Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2014

The <u>Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Amendment Bill 2014</u> aligns Australia's anti-doping legislation with the revised World Anti-Doping Code and International Standards that come into force on 1 January 2015.

The closing date for submissions was 3 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 October 2014.

#### Senate Community Affairs References Committee

Committee homepage | Committee membership

#### Extent of income inequality in Australia

This inquiry will examine the extent of income inequality in Australia and the rate at which income inequality is increasing in our community and the likely impact of Government policies on current and future rates of inequality particularly the changes proposed in the 2014-15 Budget.

The inquiry will look at the impact of income inequality on access to health, housing, education and work in Australia, and on the quality of the outcomes achieved. It will also examine the specific impacts of inequality on disadvantaged groups within the community, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, older job seekers, people living with a disability or mental illness, refugees, single parents, those on a low income, people at risk of poverty in retirement as well as the relationship between gender and inequality.



The Committee will report on the principles that should underpin the provision of social security payments in Australia and the practical measures that could be implemented by Governments to address inequality, particularly appropriate and adequate income support payments.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 22 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 November 2014.

#### Out of home care

The Committee will examine out of home care, specifically the drivers of the increase in the number of children placed in out of home care, types of care that are increasing and demographics of the children in care, and the outcomes for children in out of home care versus staying in the home. The Committee will consider current models for out of home care, the current cost of Australia's approach to care and protection and the consistency of approach to out of home care around Australia.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions is 31 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the second sitting week in February 2015.

Senate Economics Affairs Legislation Committee Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill 2013

The Committee will examine the Private Member's bill of Senator John Madigan (DLP) and Senator Nick Xenophon, <u>Reserve Bank Amendment (Australian Reconstruction and Development Board) Bill</u> 2013, which creates a specific entity tasked with examining, reconstructing and improving the financial status of the Australian agricultural sector and its associated industries and infrastructures.

As such, the Bill establishes an 'Australian Reconstruction and Development Board' (ARDB) under the Reserve Bank, with the task of forming and implementing rural reconstruction and development policy.

The closing date for submissions was 10 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

#### Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014



The Committee will examine the <u>Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill</u> <u>2014</u>. In undertaking the inquiry, the Committee will consider the application of the <u>Competition and</u> <u>Consumer Act 2010</u> with particular reference to provisions relating to competition and market power. The Committee will also examine the remedies available to the Courts and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission regarding breaches of the Act and the current levels of competition in Australian markets and the impact on consumers and small businesses.

The closing date for submissions was 30 June 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

#### Automotive Transformation Scheme Amendment Bill 2014

The <u>Automotive Transformation Scheme Amendment Bill 2014</u> gives effect to the Australian Government's decisions to: implement the \$500 million savings from the Automotive Transformation Scheme capped assistance over the financial years 2014-15 to 2017-18 as set out in the 2013-14 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO); and terminate the ATS on 1 January 2018 as stated in the 2014-15 Budget Papers.

The closing date for submissions is 27 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 24 November 2014.

#### Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 5) Bill 2014

The <u>Tax and Superannuation Laws Amendment (2014 Measures No. 5) Bill 2014</u> Amends the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and *Taxation Administration Act 1953* to abolish the mature age worker tax offset, amends the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and *Shipping Reform (Tax Incentives) Act 2012* to abolish the seafarer tax offset and amends *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* to reduce the tax offset rates available under the research and development tax incentive by 1.5 per cent and update the list of deductible gift recipients.

The closing date for submissions is 13 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 October 2014.

Senate Economics Affairs References Committee Committee homepage I Committee membership

Australia's Innovation System



The Committee will examine challenges to Australian industries and jobs posed by increasing global competition in innovation, science, engineering, research and education. In particular, the Committee will examine the need to attract new investment in innovation to secure high skill, high wage jobs and industries in Australia, as well as the role of public policy in nurturing a culture of innovation and a healthy innovation ecosystem.

It will also examine the Government's approach to innovation, especially with respect to the funding of education and research, the allocation of investment in industries, and the maintenance of capabilities across the economy. It will report on the relationship between advanced manufacturing and a dynamic innovation culture and suggest policy actions to attract, train and retain a healthy research and innovation workforce and create a seamless innovation pipeline.

The full terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 31 July2014.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day of July 2015.

#### Affordable housing

This inquiry will examine government policies to encourage home ownership and residential property investment and increase housing supply, including current taxes and levies, and the operation, effect and future of the National Rental Affordability Scheme.

The inquiry will also look at the regulatory structures governing the roles of financial institutions and superannuation funds in the home lending and property sectors, and the operation and effectiveness of rent and housing assistance programs.

The inquiry is broad in scope, and will report on implications for other related changes to Commonwealth government policies and programs, including taxation policy, aged care, disability services, Indigenous affairs and for state and territory governments. Construction, building materials, sustainability and the availability of an appropriately skilled workforce will also form part of the inquiry.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 25 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 November 2014.

#### Forestry managed investment schemes

The Committee will examine the structure and development of forestry managed investment schemes (MIS), including the motivation and drivers that established the framework for the schemes, and the role of government, regulation and the financial services industry in MIS.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.



The closing date for submissions is 15 December 2014.

The Committee is due to report by March 2015.

### Future of Australia's naval shipbuilding industry

The Committee was asked to inquire into the future sustainability of Australia's strategically vital naval shipbuilding industry. The closing date for submissions for this part of the inquiry was 17 July 2014 and the Committee reported by 27 August 2014.

Part II: Broader inquiry into the future of Australia's shipbuilding industry

During the first stage, the Committee also resolved to inquire into the tender process for the Royal Australian Navy's (RAN) new supply ships as its first order of business, as part of its broader inquiry into Australia's naval shipbuilding industry.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions is 1 December 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 1 July 2015.

#### Need for a national approach to retail leasing arrangements

The Committee will inquire into the need for a national approach to retail leasing arrangements to create a fairer system and reduce the burden on small to medium businesses with associated benefits to landlords.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 28 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 30 October 2014.

#### Scrutiny of financial advice

The Committee will examine the current level of consumer protections, the role of, and oversight by, regulatory agencies in preventing the provision of unethical and misleading financial advice, whether existing mechanisms are appropriate in any compensation process relating to unethical or misleading financial advice and instances where these mechanisms may have failed, mechanisms, including a centralised register, that would ensure financial planners found to have breached any law or professional standards in their employment are transparent, for both the sector and consumers, how financial services providers and companies have responded to misconduct in the industry and any other regulatory or legislative reforms that would prevent misconduct.

Submission and reporting dates have not yet been announced.



The closing date for submissions is 5 December 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day of July 2015.

#### **Digital currency**

The Committee will inquire into how to develop an effective regulatory system for digital currency that: ascertains the most appropriate definition of digital currencies under Australian tax law, promotes competition and growth of the digital currency industry, ensures ongoing stability in the financial services industry, secures protection of consumers and businesses against illegal activity, incorporates digital currencies into Australia's national security framework, and ensures the financial stability of the industry.

The Committee will also examine the potential impact of digital currency technology on the Australian economy, including the payments sector, retail sector, and banking sector. It will also consider how Australia can take advantage of digital currency technology to establish itself as a market leader in this field.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day of March 2015.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.

#### Tax avoidance and aggressive minimisation

The Committee will inquire into tax avoidance and aggressive minimisation by corporations registered in Australia and multinational corporations operating in Australia, with specific reference to the adequacy of Australia's current laws. The Committee will examine whether there is any need for greater transparency to deter tax avoidance and provide assurance that all companies are complying fully with Australia's tax laws, the broader economic impacts of this behaviour, beyond the direct effect on government revenue, and the opportunities to collaborate internationally and/or act unilaterally to address the problem.

The Committee will also assess the performance and capability of the ATO to investigate and launch litigation, in the wake of drastic budget cuts to staffing numbers and the role and performance of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission in working with corporations and supporting the ATO to protect public revenue.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day in June 2015.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on this inquiry is available <u>here</u>.



### Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

### Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014

The <u>Higher Education and Research Reform Amendment Bill 2014</u> implements the Government's higher education reform agenda, including demand-driven funding, removal of maximum student contribution amounts, merging of the FEE-HELP and HECS-HELP loan schemes, including the removal of the FEE-HELP loan fee and lifetime limits, amongst other changes.

The closing date for submissions was 22 September 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 October 2014.

# Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

# National Water Commission (Abolition) Bill 2014

The <u>National Water Commission (Abolition) Bill</u> 2014 will abolish the National Water Commission (NWC) with effect from 1 January 2015. Under the NWC Act, the NWC is responsible for assisting in the implementation of the Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Water Initiative (NWI) and providing advice to the Commonwealth and the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) on national water reform. The principal role of the NWC is to provide oversight and assessment of national water reforms.

The closing date for submissions is 13 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 24 November 2014.

# Senate Environment and Communications References Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

# Australia's environment

The Committee will examine "the Abbott Government's attacks on Australia's environment, and their effects on our natural heritage and future prosperity."

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 1 September 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 10 October 2014.



#### **Environmental Biosecurity**

The Committee will examine and report on the adequacy of arrangements to prevent the entry and establishment of invasive species likely to harm Australia's natural environment. It will focus on both recent biosecurity performance with respect to exotic organisms with the potential to harm the natural environment detected since 2000 and resulting from accidental or illegal introductions from overseas and Australia's state of preparedness for new environmental incursions.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions is was 2 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 3 December 2014.

#### National Landcare Program

The Committee will inquire and report on the history, effectiveness, performance and future of the National Landcare Program. The Committee will also examine the implications of the 2014-15 Budget for land care programs, in particular, on contracts, scope, structure, outcomes of programs and long-term impact on natural resource management.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 8 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 29 October 2014.

#### Electricity and energy regulation

The Committee will inquire into the manner in which electricity network companies have presented information to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) and how electricity companies have calculated the weighted average cost of capital and how this measure has changed over time. The Committee will also seek to ascertain whether state-owned network companies have prioritised their focus on future privatisation proceeds above the interests of energy users and whether the arrangements for the regulation of the cost of capital are delivering allowed rates of return above the actual cost of capital.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day in March 2015.

# Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership



#### **Department of Parliamentary Services**

The Committee will examine progress in implementing the recommendations of the committee's 2012 reports into the performance of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS), including workplace culture and employment issues, heritage management, building maintenance and asset management issues, and contract management, the senior management structure of DPS and arrangements to maintain the independence of the Parliamentary Librarian and oversight arrangements for security in the parliamentary precincts and security policies.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 5 September 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the seventh sitting day in March 2015.

#### Parliamentary Entitlements Legislation Amendment Bill 2014

On 2 October 2014, the Senate referred the Parliamentary Entitlements Legislation Amendment Bill 2014 to the Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee for inquiry and report.

The closing date for submissions is 7 November 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 24 November 2014.

#### Senate Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Domestic Violence in Australia

The Committee will examine and report on the prevalence and impact of domestic violence in Australia as it affects all Australians and, in particular, as it affects women living with a disability and women from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds. The Committee will also examine the factors contributing to the present levels of domestic violence, the adequacy of policy and community responses to domestic violence, and the effects of policy decisions regarding housing, legal services, and women's economic independence on the ability of women to escape domestic violence. Finally the Committee will report on how the Federal Government can best support, contribute to and drive the social, cultural and behavioural shifts required to eliminate violence against women and their children.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 31 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 2 March 2015.



Senate Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade References Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Abuse in defence

With reference to the Committee's <u>earlier report into the review of allegations of sexual and other</u> <u>abuse in Defence</u>, the Committee will examine the accessibility and adequacy of current mechanisms and processes to provide support to victims of sexual and other abuse in Defence.

The Committee will take into account the Defence Abuse Response Taskforce (DART) process to date, Defence's response to the DLA Piper Review and the work of DART, successive governments' responses to the DLA Piper Review and the work of DART and the desirability of releasing a true reflection of volume two of the DLA Piper report in a redacted form or by way of a summary. '

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The Committee was due to report by 30 October 2014

#### Australia's future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters

The Committee will inquire into Australia's future activities and responsibilities in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic waters, including Australia's management and monitoring of the Southern Ocean in relation to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, cooperation with international partners on management and research under international treaties and agreements and appropriate resourcing in the Southern Ocean and Antarctic territory for research and governance.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 1 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 29 October 2014.

#### Senate Select Committee on Health

Committee homepage I Committee membership

The Select Committee into Health will inquire into and report on health policy, administration and expenditure.

The closing date for submissions was 19 September 2014.

The Committee is due to report by June 2016.



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

<u>Committee homepage</u> I <u>Committee membership</u>

#### Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013

The <u>Criminal Code Amendment (Harming Australians) Bill 2013</u> extends existing provisions under the Criminal Code Act 1995 that make it an offence to harm Australians overseas. The original provisions were introduced in October 2002, following the Bali bombings. The aim of these provisions was to allow for prosecution of individuals who harm Australians outside Australia (either through murder or manslaughter, or through intentional or reckless behaviour) to be brought to justice.

These provisions commenced on 1 October 2002, and apply only to offences committed after this date. This Bill gives the Act retrospective operation.

The closing date for submissions was 21 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

#### Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013

The inquiry will examine the <u>Criminal Code Amendment (Misrepresentation of Age to a Minor) Bill 2013</u>, which makes it an offence for a person who is over 18 years of age to misrepresent their age to a person they reasonably believe to be under 16 years of age and applies to online communication.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

#### Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014

The <u>Migration Amendment (Protecting Babies Born in Australia) Bill 2014</u> amends the *Migration Act 1958* to provide that a person will have been deemed not to have entered Australia by sea if they entered the migration zone and landed in an aircraft or if the person was born in the migration zone.

The closing date for submissions was 29 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 28 October 2014.

#### Migration Amendment (Character and General Visa Cancellation) Bill 2014

The <u>Migration Amendment (Character and General Visa Cancellation) Bill 2014</u> amends the Migration Act 1958 (the Migration Act) to implement a number of reforms to the character and general visa cancellation provisions in the Migration Act arising in part from the Review of the Character and General Visa Cancellation Framework (the Review) conducted by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection in 2013.

The closing date for submissions is 28 October 2014.



The Committee is due to report by 24 November 2014.

#### Exposure draft of the Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill 2014

The Senate will examine the exposure draft of the <u>Medical Services (Dying with Dignity) Bill 2014</u>, with particular reference to the rights of terminally ill people to seek assistance in ending their lives, and an appropriate framework and safeguards with which to do so

The Committee is due to report by 27 October 2014

#### Guardian for Unaccompanied Children Bill 2014

The <u>Guardian For Unaccompanied Children Bill 2014</u> establishes the Office of the Guardian for Unaccompanied Non-citizen Children; provides for the appointment, functions and powers of the guardian; provides for staff, consultants and reporting requirements; and amends the *Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946* and *Migration Act 1958* to make consequential amendments.

The Committee is due to report by 23 October 2014.

#### Migration and Maritime Powers Legislation Amendment (Resolving the Asylum Legacy Caseload) Bill 2014

The <u>Migration and Maritime Powers Legislation Amendment (Resolving the Asylum Legacy Caseload) Bill</u> 2014 fundamentally changes Australia's approach to managing asylum seekers by: reinforcing the Government's powers and support for our officers conducting maritime operations to stop people smuggling ventures at sea, clarifying and strengthening Australia's maritime enforcement framework to provide greater clarity to the ongoing conduct of border security and maritime enforcement operation.

The bill introduces temporary protection for those who engage Australia's non-refoulement obligations and who arrived in Australia illegally and introducing more rapid processing and streamlined review arrangements, creating a different processing model for protection assessments. It also aims to deter the making of unmeritorious protection claims as a means to delay an applicant's departure from Australia and assist the removal from Australia of those who do not engage Australia's protection obligations).

The closing date for submissions was 30 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 November 2014.

Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee Committee homepage | Committee membership

Comprehensive revision of Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979



The Committee will undertake a comprehensive revision of the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979, with regard to: the recommendations of the Australian Law Reform Commission For <u>Your Information: Australian Privacy Law and Practice report</u>, particularly recommendation 71.2, and recommendations relating to the Act from the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security Inquiry into <u>the potential reforms of Australia's National Security Legislation report</u>, May 2013.

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 27 February 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 29 October 2014.

#### Incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014

The Committee will inquire into the incident at the Manus Island Detention Centre from 16 February to 18 February 2014. The Committee will have particular reference to the events and factors that gave cause to the incident and that led to, and the cause of, Reza Berati's death, the Departmental, contractor, subcontractor and service provider involvement and response, the Papua New Guinean police, military and civilian involvement and response, the conduct of the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, communications surrounding the incident, the Australian Government's duty of care obligations and responsibilities, and refugee status determination processing and resettlement arrangements in Papua New Guinea.

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The Committee is due to report by 27 October 2014.

# The ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gun-related violence in the community

The Committee will examine the ability of Australian law enforcement authorities to eliminate gunrelated violence in the community, with reference to the estimated number of illegal guns in Australia, the operation and consequences of the illicit firearms trade and the adequacy of current laws and resourcing to enable authorities to respond to technological advances in gun technology.

The closing date for submissions was 15 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 2 December 2014.

#### Work undertaken by the Australian Federal Police's Oil for Food Taskforce

The Committee will examine and report on the work undertaken by the Australian Federal Police's Oil for Food Taskforce and the level of resourcing that was provided and used by the taskforce.

The Committee is due to report by 26 November 2014.



#### Senate Standing Committee on Privileges

Committee homepage I Committee membership

### Possible imposition of a penalty on a witness before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

In the context of an inquiry by the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee into aviation accident investigations and Budget estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee in May 2013, the Committee will examine whether disciplinary action was taken against either a witness before the committee or a person providing information to the committee and if so, whether any contempt was committed in respect of those matters.

#### Use of CCTV material in Parliament House

In relation to the use of closed circuit television footage by officers of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS) for internal investigations involving DPS staff, the Committee will examine whether there was any improper interference, or attempted improper interference, with the free performance by Senator Faulkner or any other senator of their duties as a senator and whether disciplinary action was taken against any person in connection with the provision of information to Senator Faulkner or any other senator. If so, the Committee will examine whether any contempts were committed in respect of those matters.

### Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee Committee homepage | Committee membership

#### Infrastructure Australia Amendment (Cost Benefit Analysis and Other Measures) Bill 2014

The Infrastructure Australia Amendment (Cost Benefit Analysis and Other Measures) Bill 2014 amends the Infrastructure Australia Act 2008 to: clarify the definition of 'proposal'; include the requirement that Infrastructure Australia undertake evaluations of infrastructure proposals that involve Commonwealth funding of at least \$100 million and provide for indexation of this amount; move incorrectly placed provisions in relation to cost benefit analyses of proposals; and provide that a proposal must not be included in an Infrastructure Priority List unless a cost benefit analysis has been prepared in accordance with the approved method.

The closing date for submissions is 16 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 November 2014.

#### Rural Research and Development Legislation Amendment Bill 2014

The purpose of the <u>Rural Research and Development Legislation Amendment Bill 2014</u> is to amend legislation relating to research and development for primary industries, and for related purposes. The



amendments would allow the government to recover the cost of membership fees to international commodity organisations and regional fisheries management organisations from the matching amounts paid to Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs).

The additional measures would also remove the requirement for the Minister to organise an annual coordination meeting for the chairs of RDCs and remove some parliamentary tabling requirements for some RDCs.

The closing date for submissions is 16 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 26 November 2014.

#### Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Australian Grain Networks

The Committee will inquire into grain export networks, including the on- and off-farm storage, transport, handling and export of Australian grain, with particular reference to the principles and practices underpinning an efficient grain supply chain from farm-gate to port, grain marketing and export arrangements and their impact on farm-gate returns, competition constraints on grain transport, storage and handling services and the extent to which transport, storage and handling arrangements are transparent and accountable

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 31 July 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 3 December 2014.

#### Current and future arrangements for the marketing of Australian sugar

The Committee will examine the impact of proposed changes on the local sugar industry, including the effect on grower economic interest sugar. It will inquire into equitable access to essential infrastructure, foreign ownership levels in the industry and the potential to impact on the interests of the Australian sugar industry. The committee will report on whether there is an emerging need for formal powers under Commonwealth competition and consumer laws, in particular, whether there are adequate protections for grower-producers against market imbalances.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions is 13 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 November 2014.

# HB

# Industry structures and systems governing the imposition of and disbursement of marketing and research and development (R&D) levies in the agricultural sector

The Committee will inquire into industry structures and systems governing the imposition of and disbursement of marketing and research and development (R&D) levies in the agricultural sector, with particular reference to the basis on which levies are imposed, collected and used, competing pressures for finite R&D funds, the opportunities levy payers have to influence the investment of the levies and the opportunities levy payers have to approve the imposition of levies.

The terms of reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions is 20 October 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 24 November 2014.

#### Australia's transport energy resilience and sustainability

The Committee will examine options for introducing mandatory oil stockholdings, the role of Government in ensuring Australian energy for Australians, including maintaining refinery capability and Australia's role and responsibility regarding energy security as a member of various multilateral fora.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions is 10 November 2014.

The Committee is due to report by the first sitting day in March 2015.

#### Role of public transport in delivering productivity outcomes

The Committee will examine the need for an integrated approach across road and rail in addressing congestion in cities, including Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth, the social and environmental benefits of public transport projects compared to road infrastructure projects such as WestConnex and the East-West Link and the national significance of public transport.

The Committee will also look at the relationship between public transport and building well-functioning cities, the decision of the Federal Government to refuse to fund public transport projects and the impact on user charges arising from requiring states to fund public transport projects.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 30 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 4 December 2014.

#### Industry structures and systems governing levies on grass-fed cattle



The Committee is tasked with an examination of the industry structures and systems governing the collection and disbursement of marketing and research and development levies pertaining to the sale of grass-fed cattle set out in subsections 6(l)(a), 6(1)(b), 6(2)(a) and 6(2)(b) of Schedule 3 (Cattle transactions) of the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999.

The terms of reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 30 January 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 23 September 2014.

#### The current requirements for labelling of seafood and seafood products

The Committee will examine whether the current requirements provide consumers with sufficient information to make informed choices, allow for best-practice traceability of product chain-of-custody and allow domestic seafood producers to compete on even terms with imported seafood products.

The Committee will have regard to the regulations in other jurisdictions and the need for consistent definitions and use of terms in product labelling, and will take into account Food and Agriculture Organisation guidelines and the need for labelling for cooked or pre-prepared seafood products and recommendations for the provision of consumer information.

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 1 August 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 27 September 2014.

#### Review of the citrus industry in Australia

The review of the citrus industry in Australia will examine the scale and structure of the industry opportunities and inhibitors for growth of the Australian industry, competition issues in the Australian market, the adequacy and efficiency of supply chains in the Australian market and opportunities and inhibitors for export and export growth.

The terms of reference are available here.

The Committee is due to report by 16 December 2014.

#### Senate Select Committee on the National Broadband Network

Committee homepage I Committee membership

On 14 November 2013 the Senate established a Select Committee on the National Broadband Network to inquire into and report on the Government's reviews of the National Broadband Network (NBN) and



the governance of NBN Co, with interim reports as the committee sees fit and a final report on or before 10 June 2014.

On 14 May 2014, the Senate agreed to extend the date for the presentation of the final report to the last sitting day of the 44th Parliament. The committee has subsequently agreed to continue accepting submissions.

#### Senate Select Committee into the Abbott Government's Budget Cuts

#### Committee homepage I Committee membership

That Committee will inquire into the effect of cuts or changes in the Commonwealth budget, with interim reports as the committee sees fit and a final report on or before 20 June 2016, with particular reference to:

- any reductions in access to services provided by the Commonwealth;
- the provision of other services, programs or benefits provided by the Government affected by the budget;
- Commonwealth state relations and the impact of decreased Commonwealth investment on service delivery by the states;
- the fairness and efficiency of revenue raising;
- the structural budget balance over the forward estimates and the next 10 years;
- the reduced investment in scientific research and infrastructure and its impact on future productivity;
- public sector job cuts;
- the impact of the budget on retirement incomes and pensions;
- intergenerational mobility;
- the impact of the budget on young people and students; and
- the impact of the budget on households.

#### Senate Select Committee on Certain Aspects of Queensland Government Administration

The Committee will inquire and report on the amount of Commonwealth funds paid to the State of Queensland since 26 March 2012 and the manner in which they were spent, the administration of the courts and judicial system, approval processes for development and coal seam gas projects, the extent to which Queensland State Government policies and practices are consistent with Australia's obligations under international environmental law instruments and the administration of prisons and human rights issues surrounding detention without trial.

The Committee will consist of five members but only one from the Government.



The Terms of Reference are available here.

The Committee is due to report by 27 March 2015.

#### **House Committees**

House Standing Committee on Agriculture and Industry Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Country of Origin Food Labelling

The Committee will examine whether the current Country of Origin Labelling (CoOL for food) system provides enough information for Australian consumers to make informed purchasing decisions, and whether Australia's CoOL laws are being complied with and what, if any, are the practical limitations to compliance. The Committee will report on whether improvements could be made, including to simplify the current system and/or reduce the compliance burden, whether Australia's CoOL laws are being circumvented by staging imports through third countries and the impact on Australia's international trade obligations of any proposed changes to Australia's CoOL laws.

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 9 May 2014.

The Committee has not published date for reporting.

House Standing Committee on Economics Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into foreign investment in residential real estate

The Committee will examine the economic benefits of foreign investment in residential property, whether such foreign investment is directly increasing the supply of new housing and bringing benefits to the local building industry and its suppliers, how Australia's foreign investment framework compares with international experience; and whether the administration of Australia's foreign investment policy relating to residential property can be enhanced.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 9 May 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 10 October 2014.

#### Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013



The Standing Committee on Economics, which can inquire into and report on any annual reports referred to it by the House of Representatives, has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Reserve Bank of Australia.

The Committee has tabled two reports to date:

- Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013 (First Report)
- <u>Review of the Reserve Bank Annual Report 2013 (Second Report)</u>

The Committee will continue to review the 2013 Annual Report.

#### Review of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Annual Report 2013

The Standing Committee on Economics, which can inquire into and report on any annual reports referred to it by the House of Representatives, has agreed to undertake an inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority.

#### House Standing Committee on Education and Employment

<u>Committee homepage</u> I <u>Committee membership</u>

#### Inquiry into the role of the Technical and Further Education system and its operation

The Committee will inquire into and report on the role played by TAFEs in the development of skills in the Australian economy, the provision of pathways for Australians to access employment, the provision of pathways for Australians to access University education and the operation of a competitive training market.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The Committee was due to report by 31 July 2014.

House Standing Committee on the Environment Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into streamlining environmental regulation, 'green tape', and one stop shops

The Committee will examine environmental regulation, specifically jurisdictional arrangements, regulatory requirements and the potential for deregulation, the balance between regulatory burdens and environmental benefits areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory framework and legislation governing environmental regulation, and the potential for deregulation.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.



The closing date for submissions was 30 April 2014.

House Standing Committee on Health

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into skin cancer in Australia

The Committee on Health will inquire into melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers and report on options to improve implementation of evidence-based best practice treatment and management, strategies to enhance early diagnosis, effective strategies for prevention and the need to increase levels of awareness in the community and among healthcare professionals.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 28 March 2014.

#### **House Standing Committee on Indigenous Affairs**

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

The Committee will inquire into and report on the harmful use of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The inquiry will focus on patterns of supply of, and demand for alcohol in different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, age groups and genders, the social and economic determinants of harmful alcohol use across Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, trends and prevalence of alcohol related harm, including alcohol-fuelled violence and impacts on newborns e.g. Foetal Alcohol Syndrome and Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

The Committee will also examine best practice strategies, treatments and support for minimising alcohol misuse and alcohol-related harm, best practice strategies to minimise alcohol misuse and alcohol-related harm, and in so doing will include international and domestic comparisons.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 17 April 2014.

House Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications Committee homepage | Committee membership

Inquiry into High Speed Rail Planning Authority Bill 2013



On Thursday 12 December 2013, the House Selection Committee referred a private member's bill to the Committee for inquiry and report - *the High Speed Rail Planning Authority Bill 2013*.

On 9 December 2013 Shadow Minister for Infrastructure the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP introduced a private member's bill to protect the 1 748 kilometre rail corridor for the HSR project.

The Bill would establish the High-Speed Rail Planning Authority as a vehicle for long-term Commonwealth leadership to progress this project, made up of federal, state and industry stakeholders. The body would be similar to the High Speed Rail Advisory Group established by the former Labor Government which was abolished by the Coalition Government.

The terms of reference are the text of the bill, which can be accessed, together with the explanatory memorandum and the second reading speech, are available <u>here</u>.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on High Speed Rail is available <u>here</u>.

# Inquiry into the use of subsection 313(3) of the Telecommunications Act 1997 by government agencies to disrupt the operation of illegal online services

The Committee will examine Section 313 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* which provides Australian government agencies (including state government agencies) with the ability to obtain assistance from the telecommunications industry when upholding Australian laws.

The terms of reference are available here.

#### Infrastructure Planning and Procurement

The Committee will consider the operating around Australia at local and state government levels that might lower the cost of planning approvals and reduce timeframes for delivery of projects. Of those initiatives, the Committee will inquire as whether any are able or appropriate to be implemented on a broader basis, including at Federal level.

The Committee will also examine what industry doing to reduce the regulatory and other costs that it faces in competing for infrastructure projects, and ways that Australia can increase or deepen the competitive market for infrastructure provision and funding in Australia.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 11 April 2014.

#### Standing Committee of Privileges and Members' Interests

Committee homepage I Committee membership

Inquiry into whether the former Member for Dobell deliberately misled the House



The Committee will investigate whether in the course of his statement of 21 May 2012, and having regard to the findings of the Melbourne Magistrates Court on 18 February 2014 in relation to Mr Thomson, the former Member for Dobell, Mr Craig Thomson, deliberately misled the House.

House Standing Committee on Procedure Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into the maintenance of the Standing and Sessional Orders

The Committee will inquire into and report on the maintenance of the standing and sessional orders of the House of Representatives.

House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Parliamentary Inquiry into the Child Support Program

The Committee will consider whether any problems experienced by payers or payees of child support impact on the majority of parents and other carers involved in the system, or a minority, and make recommendations accordingly.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 4 July 2014.

#### House Standing Committee on Tax and Revenue

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Taxation Office

The Committee will inquire into and report on the 2013 Annual Report of the Australian Taxation Office.

The 2013 ATO Annual Report is available here.

#### Inquiry into Tax Disputes

The Committee will report on disputes between taxpayers and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), and will examine collecting revenues due, fair treatment and respect of taxpayers, the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency, from the perspective of both taxpayers and the ATO, and how the ATO supports the outcomes of efficiency, effectiveness and transparency through the use and publication of performance information.



The full Terms of Reference are available here.

#### **Joint Committees**

Joint Committee on the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity Committee homepage | Committee membership

#### Inquiry into the jurisdiction of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity

The Committee will inquire into the jurisdiction of the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI).

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 14 May 2014.

Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Committee homepage | Committee membership

The Committee will inquire into and report on steps that can be taken to progress towards a successful referendum on Indigenous constitutional recognition.

A schedule of public hearings is available here.

The terms of reference/outline of the role of the committee is available <u>here</u>.

The Committee reports by 30 June each year.

### Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services

<u>Committee homepage</u> I <u>Committee membership</u>

#### **Oversight of ASIC and the Takeovers Panel 2014**

Section 243 of the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001* sets out the Committee's duties. These duties include oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). In fulfilment of this statutory duty, the committee holds regular public hearings with ASIC and reports its findings to parliament.

The most recent hearing was held on 28 March 2014.

The Committee is due to report by 30 October 2014.



# Inquiry into proposals to lift the professional, ethical and education standards in the financial services industry

The Committee will examine the adequacy of current qualifications required by financial advisers, the implications, including implications for competition and the cost of regulation for industry participants of the financial advice sector being required to adopt professional standards or rules of professional conduct which would govern the professional and ethical behaviour of financial advisers, professional regulation of such standards or rules and the recognition of professional bodies by ASIC.

#### Joint Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into Australia's trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East

The Committee will consider the nature of Australia's existing trade and investment relationships with countries of the Middle East and emerging and possible future trends in these relationships.

The Committee will also examine barriers and impediments to trade and investment with Middle Eastern countries for Australian businesses, including examination of supply chain costs and opportunities for deepening existing commercial and cultural links, and developing new ones, with the countries of the Middle East.

Finally, the Committee will consider the role of government, including DFAT and Austrade, in identifying new opportunities and assisting Australian companies to access existing and potential opportunities in the Middle East.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 6 June 2014.

#### Review of the Defence Annual Report 2012-2013

The Committee will review the to review the <u>Department of Defence Annual Report 2012-2013</u>, having particular regard to submarine capability, the Defence Materiel Organisation and Capability Development Group, asset management, the Defence Cooperation Program and air combat capability.

The closing date for submissions was 1 May 2014.

# Inquiry into the human right issues confronting women and girls in the Indian Ocean – Asia Pacific region

The Committee will examine the barriers and impediments to enhancing the human rights of women and girls in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region, especially regarding the impact of family and sexual violence, women's leadership and economic opportunities. The Committee will also review the achievements to date in advancing women and girls' human rights in these key areas



and will consider the implications for economic and social development in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region of promoting women and girls' human rights.

Finally the Committee will also examine the effectiveness of Australian programs to support efforts to improve the human rights of women and girls in the Indian Ocean - Asia Pacific region.

The closing date for submissions was 22 May 2014.

# Inquiry into the role of the private sector in promoting economic growth and reducing poverty in the Indo-Pacific region

The Committee will examine the current role of the private sector in accelerating the pace of economic growth and in reducing poverty in poor countries in the Indo-Pacific region.

It will look at current Australian Government support for private sector development through bilateral and multilateral investments, any legislative, institutional, social and policy constraints that may reduce the ability of private sector agencies to engage in development and additional partnerships, activities or financial instruments the Australian government could use to enhance the role of the private sector in development in the Indo-Pacific region.

The Committee will also examine the role of public-private partnerships in leveraging private sector investment in developing countries and the role Australian and international businesses could play to support development and inclusive growth in partner countries.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 8 May 2014.

#### Inquiry into Government Support for Australian Defence Industry Exports

The Committee will inquire into and report on Government support for Australian Defence industry exports, including identification of barriers and impediments to the growth of Australia's Defence exports, how Government can better engage and assist Australian Defence industry to export its products, the operations of the Defence Export Control Office and an assessment of the export support given to Defence industry by governments of comparable nations.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 11 July 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence and Security Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014



The Committee will examine the <u>Counter-Terrorism Legislation Amendment (Foreign Fighters) Bill 2014</u> which implements the Government's responses to the evolving national security landscape and in particular, the threat posed by Australians engaging in, and returning from, conflicts in foreign States.

The reforms introduce substantive changes to the criminal law regime in respect of terrorism offences. Cumulatively, they enhance the capabilities of Australia's law enforcement and intelligence agencies to respond proactively and effectively to the threats posed by foreign fighters to Australia and its national security interests.

The closing date for submissions was 3 October 2014.

### Review of Administration and Expenditure No.13 (2013-2014)

The Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security is required under Section 29 (1)(a) of the Intelligence Services Act 2001, to conduct an annual review of the administration, expenditure and financial statements of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS), Australian Signals Directorate (ASD-formerly the Defence Signals Directorate), Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO), Defence Imagery Geospatial Organisation (DIGO) and the Office of National Assessments (ONA).

The closing date for submissions is 28 November 2014.

#### Joint Committee on Law Enforcement

Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into financial related crime

The committee will examine the effectiveness of current Commonwealth law enforcement legislation and administrative arrangements that target serious and organised financial related crime including money laundering and identity fraud.

The committee will examine the character, prevalence and impact of financial related crime in Australia, the methods and practices used by the perpetrators and the involvement of organised crime, the operation and effectiveness of Commonwealth legislation, administrative arrangements and law enforcement strategies, the role of the Australian Crime Commission and the Australian Federal Police in detecting financial related crime and the interaction of Commonwealth, state and territory legislation and law enforcement activity.

The Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 9 May 2014.



Joint Standing Committee on Migration Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### Inquiry into the Business Innovation and Investment Programme (BIIP)

Joint Standing Committee on Migration

The inquiry will assess whether the BIIP is meeting its intended objectives and if any adjustments are necessary, consider the conditions involved in the decline in rates of application for the BIIP, in light of rates of application for the previous Business Skills Program and evaluate the current eligibility criteria, with particular regard to the operation of the BIIP points test, and its effectiveness in selecting suitable migrants.

The inquiry will also weigh the size of the current BIIP programme against the emphasis placed on other elements of the skilled stream of the migration programme in generating economic growth.

The full Terms of Reference are available <u>here</u>.

The closing date for submissions was 2 May 2014.

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

<u>Committee homepage</u> I <u>Committee membership</u>

#### Review of the National Capital Authority: Biannual Public Briefings

The Committee is empowered to inquire into the National Capital Authority (NCA) through its Resolution of Appointment which provides for the Annual Reports of the NCA to stand referred to the Committee for any inquiry the Committee may resolve to adopt. The committee is committed to holding a public hearing with the NCA every six months to canvass matters of interest.

The last briefing was held on 17 July 2014.

#### Inquiry into economic development on Norfolk Island

The Committee will inquire into and report on redressing barriers to tourism, with particular regard to air services, facilities for cruise ships, roads and other infrastructure, complements to tourism, such as agriculture, other industry or small-medium enterprises and proposals and opportunities for niche industries.

The full Terms of Reference are available here.

The closing date for submissions was 17 April 2014.



#### Joint Standing Committee on Public Accounts and Audit

<u>Committee homepage</u> I <u>Committee membership</u>

#### *Review of Auditor General's Reports 42, 43, 48, 50, 52 (2013-14)*

On Thursday 25 September 2014, the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit resolved to review the following audit reports in detail:

- Audit Report No. 42 (2013-14) Screening of International Mail
- Audit Report No. 43 (2013-14) <u>Managing Compliance with Environment Protection and</u> <u>Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 Conditions of Approval</u>
- Audit Report No. 48 (2013-14) Administration of the Australian Business Register
- Audit Report No. 50 (2013-14) Cyber Attacks: Securing Agencies' ICT Systems
- Audit Report No. 52 (2013-14) Multi-Role Helicopter Program

#### Inquiry into the Parliamentary Budget Office

The Committee will inquire into and report on the operations of the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO), with specific regard to PBO statutory information gathering powers and access to information, including the Contingency Reserve, PBO reporting of Government progress against a new set of fiscal rules, as recommended by the National Commission of Audit, PBO reporting against medium-term projections of fiscal outlook beyond the forward estimates and best practice for independent fiscal institutions/ as identified by the International Monetary Fund. The Committee will also consider PBO implementation of the recommendation from Australian National Audit Office Report No. 36 (2013-14), and the need for any legislative change.

Submissions have now closed.

# Joint Standing Committee on Public Works Committee homepage I Committee membership

#### AIR 6000 Phase 2A/B New Air Combat Capability Facilities Project

The Public Works Committee is conducting a public hearing into the proposed new Air Combat Capability facilities which Defence has told the Committee are necessary to support the acquisition of 72 new F-35A aircraft.

The facilities will be built at RAAF bases around the country, with most work being undertaken at RAAF Base Williamtown, NSW and RAAF Base Tindal, Northern Territory.



New facilities' works proposed at RAAF Base Williamtown and RAAF Base Tindal include squadron facilities to support the operation and maintenance of the new aircraft, training facilities to develop and sustain pilots and maintenance staff, airfield infrastructure, and logistics facilities.

Works are expected to commence in January 2015 at RAAF Base Williamtown and by 2017 at RAAF Base Tindal. All works across 10 Defence bases are expected to be completed by the end of 2022. The estimated cost of the project is \$1,477.4 million.

Submissions have now closed.

# Project JP154 Phase 1—Defence Counter Improvised Explosive Device Capability Facilities and Infrastructure Project

The Committee will inquire into and report on the Project JP154 Phase 1 - Defence Counter Improvised Explosive Device Capability Facilities and Infrastructure Project.

The closing date for submissions is 28 October 2014.

#### Project JP3029 Phase 2 - Defence Space Surveillance Telescope Facilities Project

The Committee will inquire into and report on Project JP3029 Phase 2 - Defence Space Surveillance Telescope Facilities Project.

The closing date for submissions is 24 October 2014.



#### **Further information**

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on Parliamentary Committees and inquiries is available here.

The Hawker Britton guide to participating in Parliamentary inquiries is available <u>here</u>.

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the new Senate from 1 July 2014 is available here.

The Senate Committee homepage can be accessed <u>here</u>.