

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES

Inquiry into the proposal for pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone

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Report to be tabled Monday 13 October 2003, 12:40pm

Federal Parliament's Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories will this Monday, 13 October, table the report of its inquiry into the proposal by the National Capital Authority for pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone.

The introduction of pay parking is part of a proposed group of initiatives for the long-term development of the Parliamentary Zone, as set out in the *Parliamentary Zone Review Outcomes Report* released by the Authority in March 2000.

The report, will be tabled in the House of Representatives at 12:40pm on Monday, and will be available via the inquiry website (see below) or from the Secretariat **after that time** (note: **NO** embargoed copies of the report will be released).

Background

On 10 December 2002 the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, Hon. Wilson Tuckey MP, referred the issue of pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories for inquiry. The Committee examined the following in relation to the introduction of pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone:

- the interests of visitors to the Parliamentary Zone;
- the interests of those employed in the Parliamentary Zone and adjacent areas;
- the interests of the national institutions in the Parliamentary Zone;
- tourism and related issues; and
- proposed parking policies for Forrest and Barton areas adjacent to the Parliamentary Zone managed by the ACT Government – and the effects of these policies on parking arrangements in the Parliamentary Zone.

On 12 December 2002 the Committee agreed to accept the terms of reference from the Minister and conduct an inquiry. Submissions were called for, and 145 were received. Two public hearings were then held, the first on Friday 9 May 2003, the second on Wednesday 13 August 2003.

Submissions and transcripts of the hearings can be found at the inquiry website: http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/payparking/index.htm

Further information concerning the inquiry can also be obtained from that address, or by phoning the secretariat on (02) 6277 4355.

To arrange for comment after 12:40pm on Monday, contact the Chair of the Committee, Senator Ross Lightfoot on (02) 6277 3626.