

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 audit reports
 - the significance of audit findings
 - the arguments advanced by the audited agencies
 - the public interest arising from the report
- 1.2 On 5 June 2014, the Committee considered Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) performance reports 10-31 of 2013-2014. The Committee selected four reports for further review and scrutiny at public hearings:
 - Audit Report No. 21 2013-14, *Pilot Project to Audit Key Performance Indicators*, Department of Finance
 - Audit Report No. 25 2013-14, *Management of the Building Better Regional Cities Program*, Department of Social Services and Department of the Environment
 - Audit Report No. 26 2013-14, *Medicare Compliance Audits*, and Audit Report No. 27 2013-14, *Integrity of Medicare Customer Data*, Department of Human Services
- 1.3 The public hearings for the reports were held on:
 - 26 June 2014 (Audit Reports 21 and 25)
 - 17 July 2014 (Audit Reports 26 and 27)

The Committee's report

- 1.4 This report of the Committee's examination draws attention to the key issues raised in the original audit reports and at the respective public hearings. Where appropriate, the Committee has commented on unresolved or contentious issues, and made recommendations.
- 1.5 The report is structured as follows:
- Chapter 2: Audit Report No. 21 2013-14, *Pilot Project to Audit Key Performance Indicators*, Department of Finance
 - Chapter 3: Audit Report No. 25 2013-14, *Management of the Building Better Regional Cities Program*, Department of Social Services and Department of the Environment
 - Chapter 4: Audit Report No. 26 2013-14, *Medicare Compliance Audits*, Department of Human Services
 - Chapter 5: Audit Report No. 27 2013-14, *Integrity of Medicare Customer Data*, Department of Human Services
- 1.6 The following appendices provide further information:
- Appendix A – List of submissions
 - Appendix B – List of public hearings and witnesses
- 1.7 Each chapter of this report should be read in conjunction with the relevant ANAO report.¹

1 Note on references: references to the Committee *Hansard* are to the proof *Hansard*. Page numbers may vary between the proof and the official *Hansard* transcript.