



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

New inquiry

Issue date: 1 December 2016

Security upgrades at Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre to be examined

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works today announced that it is conducting an inquiry into proposed hardening works at the Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre (YHIDC).

As the risk profile of immigration detainees changes in light of the release of low-risk detainees into the community as soon as practicable, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) has sought to increase security at facilities where the medium- to high-risk detainees are held.

DIBP has proposed security hardening works at the YHIDC involving upgrades to two of the compounds, including the provision of 120 higher security beds, facilities allowing the compounds to be self-sufficient during 'lockdown' incidents, the capacity to separate cohorts of detainees within the compounds, and more sophisticated security infrastructure generally.

The proposed works are anticipated to begin in March 2017, and is expected to be completed by March 2018. The proposed works are estimated to cost approximately \$27.4 million (excluding GST).

It is anticipated that the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry early in 2017. Further information on the public hearing will be available soon.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: www.aph.gov.au/pwc

Submissions to the inquiry close on 19 January 2017.

NB the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Media enquiries:

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For background:

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

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