



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Inquiry into the Issuing of a Certificate under section 37 of the *Auditor-General Act 1997* - Inquiry based on Auditor-General Report No.6 (2018-19)

Issue date: 24 September 2018

Public Accounts Committee commences new inquiry

The [Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit](#) has commenced an inquiry into the publication of [Audit Report No.6 \(2017-18\) Army's Protected Mobility Vehicle - Light](#).

During the course of the audit the Attorney-General issued a certificate under section 37 of the *Auditor-General Act 1997* preventing the publication of certain material in the final audit report. The Committee will consider the matters relating to the issuing of the certificate and the publication of the report.

Section 37 of the *Auditor-General Act 1997* enables the Attorney-General to prevent the Auditor-General from publishing sensitive material that is considered contrary to the public interest in an ANAO report.

The JCPAA is the Parliament's joint public administration committee. The Committee scrutinises the governance, performance and accountability of Commonwealth agencies, and has the power to inquire into all expenditure of Commonwealth money.

Committee Chair, Senator Dean Smith said that part of the role of the JCPAA is to consider all reports published by the Auditor-General and support the ANAO in fulfilling its responsibilities under the *Auditor-General Act 1997*.

The Committee invites submissions to the inquiry addressing the [terms of reference](#). Submissions are requested by Thursday, 4 October. The Committee is also planning to hold a public hearing on Friday, 19 October.

Media enquiries:

Chair, Senator Dean Smith, Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit on (08) 9481 0349 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 3707 (Parliament House).

For background information:

Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4615 or email jcpaa@aph.gov.au

Interested members of the public may wish to track the Committee via the [website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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