



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit

Australian Government Contract Reporting

Issue date: Thursday, 22 March 2018

Hearing on Australian Government Contracting

The Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit will hear from a range of witnesses tomorrow at the Committee's second public hearing inquiring into Australian Government Contract Reporting.

The Committee's inquiry is based on Auditor-General's Information Report—[Australian Government Procurement Contract Reporting](#) (Audit Report No. 19, 2017–18).

During the hearing the Committee will consider:

- matters raised from the Auditor-General's reporting of AusTender contract data over a five-year period (2012–13 to 2016–17); and
- participating entities' views on the five areas of focus highlighted in the Committee's [Complementary Submission Guidance](#), including contracting trends across the Australian Public Service, transparency of contract reporting and Australian Public Service capability and capacity.

Committee Chair [Senator Dean Smith](#) said the inquiry offers an opportunity to review evidence from Commonwealth entities as well as other key stakeholders on the effective use of external consultants and contractors, including value-for-money, as well as existing contract reporting systems.

"Transparency in contract reporting and the consistent application of the Australian Government's procurement policies and framework is essential to set and maintain a high standard of policy delivery by the public service," Senator Smith said.

Public hearing details:

10:00am to 2:45pm, Friday, 23 March 2018, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

The full hearing program is available on the Committee [website](#). The hearing will be broadcast live at aph.gov.au/live.

As Parliament's joint public administration committee, the JCPAA scrutinises the governance, performance and accountability of Commonwealth agencies and has the power to initiate its own inquiries on the Commonwealth public sector.

The Committee examines all reports of the Auditor-General tabled in the Parliament and can inquire into any items, matters or circumstances connected with these reports.



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For background information:

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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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