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## **Inquiry into RAAF Base Williamtown redevelopment Stage 2 project**

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed RAAF Base Williamtown redevelopment Stage 2 project in Williamtown, New South Wales.

The Department of Defence told the Committee that operations at RAAF Base Williamtown date back over 70 years and the age of infrastructure currently on the base varies considerably. The base continues to grow and it requires the upgrade or replacement of critical ageing infrastructure to support capability and to improve functionality and operational flexibility.

Defence said that it needs to urgently address deficiencies in capability, functionality, security and compliance of base facilities and infrastructure.

Proposed works include providing Flexible Office Accommodation (FOA), which is intended to accommodate approximately 950 personnel to support the transition of new capability and other base functions. The FOA is the first stage of a new command and administrative precinct. An auditorium for 250 personnel as well as the amenity and support functions of the Army & Air Force Canteen Services adjacent to the FOA will enable collocation of core functions for Defence personnel on base.

The works will be progressively completed, with all works expected to be completed by late 2021. The estimated cost of the redevelopment project is \$274 million (excluding GST).

The Committee Chair, Senator Dean Smith, said the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry in late July 2015.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/pwc](http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc)

### **Submissions to the inquiry close on 15 July 2015.**

Full details of the public hearing will be available soon.

**NB** the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Defence.

**For interview:** Contact the Chair's office on (08) 9481 0349.

**For further information,** including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.