



JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 17 August 2011

Chair: Robert Oakeshott MP
Deputy Chair: Yvette D'Ath MP

Defence Asset Deterioration a Concern

The Department of Defence and the Australian National Audit Office will appear before the federal parliament's Public Accounts and Audit Committee on Wednesday 17 August to discuss the condition of the \$20 billion Defence estate including 72 military bases across Australia.

The Committee is holding a public hearing to examine a recent report by the Auditor-General, Audit Report No. 41 2010-11, *Maintenance of the Defence Estate*.

The Defence estate has been described as an 'ageing, complex and costly historical legacy, in which investment for maintenance had been decreasing since the 1980s.' Considering the importance of the Defence estate which includes 72 major bases, the Committee is concerned with the findings of the Audit Report.

Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott said, "The Auditor-General's findings that the current management of this \$20.2 billion estate has not been fully effective and that funding is not enough to preserve existing assets, needs to be addressed."

The hearing will be held on **Wednesday 17 August**, from **12.15pm to 1.00pm** in **Committee Room 2S1**, Parliament House Canberra. Evidence will be given by the Australian National Audit Office and the Department of Defence.

Further information is available on the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcpaa/index.htm> or by contacting the Secretariat on ph. 02 6277 4615 or e-mail jcpaa@aph.gov.au.

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