

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

MEDIA ALERT

Issued 12 March 2013

Chair: Robert Oakeshott MP Deputy Chair: Gai Brodtmann MP

Defence Major Projects Report – Annual Review

Schedule slippage for major defence projects worth nearly \$50 billion will be one of the key issues examined at a hearing of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) this Wednesday, 13 March 2013.

The hearing is part of the JCPAA's annual review of the latest Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) Major Projects Report, which this year includes 29 major projects critical to maintaining Australia's defence capabilities.

Schedule slippage continues to be the largest challenge for DMO's management of major projects. Combined schedule slippage across the projects in June 2012 was over 70 years—equivalent to a 32 per cent increase on the original schedule approved by government.

Committee chair Rob Oakeshott MP said that "over the years, the report has grown from a relatively brief report covering just eight major projects, to the current report that provides a information on nearly thirty projects that would otherwise not be readily available to the public," Mr Oakeshott said.

The committee will examine both the format of the report and common issues that have emerged across the projects.

With oversight from the JCPAA, the Major Projects Report is produced annually by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) in conjunction with the DMO. The report aims to provide accessible, transparent and accurate information about the state of Australia's largest defence acquisition projects.

Representatives from the ANAO and DMO will appear before the committee on **Wednesday**, **13 March 2013** from **11.30 am to 12.15 pm** in **Committee Room 2R1**, Parliament House, Canberra.

More information about the hearing can be found at the committee's website <u>www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa</u>

The hearing will be broadcast live at: http://www.aph.gov.au/live

For media comment: please contact Committee Chair, Rob Oakeshott MP, on (02) 6584 2911.

For information about the hearing: please contact the committee secretariat by telephone (02) 6277 4615, e-mail <u>jcpaa@aph.gov.au</u>, or visit the committee website <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/jcpaa</u>.