

Introduction

1.1 The Committee's Tenth Report of 2000, which was tabled in the House of Representatives on 11 October 2000, presented findings and recommendations in relation to a Defence Housing Authority (DHA) proposal to develop residential apartment towers in Darwin.

1.2 Under the heading of 'General Comments' the Committee concluded its Tenth Report of 2000 stating that:

After months of investigation the Committee still has serious concerns about aspects of the [DHA] proposal and the need ... The Committee believes DHA must do more work before the Parliament can endorse the proposal.

The Committee concludes that the development of apartment towers in Carey Street, Darwin by the [DHA] should not proceed until all the Committee's recommendations have been met.

The Committee recommends that the Defence Housing Authority report to the Committee when it has complied with all the recommendations contained in this report.¹

1.3 In accordance with the above recommendation (Recommendation 9), the Hon. Bruce Scott MP, Minister for Veterans' Affairs and the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence, wrote to the Committee on

1 Australia. Parliament. Joint Committee on Public Works. *Report relating to the proposal DEVELOPMENT OF 90 APARTMENTS IN DARWIN*, Tenth Report of 2000, 5 October 2000, pp. 34-5.

8 November 2000, providing the Committee with a response to its recommendations. The Committee considered this response and on 27 November 2000 advised the Minister that the Committee had:

- agreed to DHA proceeding with the issue and evaluation of tenders and obtaining an updated market appraisal;
- accepted the response to Recommendation 6; and
- resolved that the construction of the proposed work not proceed until the Committee's recommendations, with the exception of Recommendation 6, had been met.

- 1.4 The Committee also advised DHA that it required a more detailed response than that initially provided.
- 1.5 This report presents the Committee's findings and conclusions in relation to material provided after the tabling of the Tenth Report of 2000 and, in particular, a detailed response and accompanying reports provided by DHA on 1 February 2001.
- 1.6 Chapter 2 provides comments in relation to each of the first eight recommendations in the Tenth Report of 2000. DHA's response is provided in Appendix B. Related reports and other documents are provided in subsequent appendices.
- 1.7 Chapter 3 provides comments of a more general nature together with the Committee's conclusions.