The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

# Proposed Refurbishment of the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra, ACT

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

September 2005 Canberra © Commonwealth of Australia 2005 ISBN 0 642 78703 4 (Printed version) ISBN 0 642 78704 2 (HTML version)

# Contents

| V     |
|-------|
| vi    |
| . vii |
| viii  |
|       |

#### REPORT

| 1 | Introduction                  | 1  |
|---|-------------------------------|----|
|   | Referral of Work              | 1  |
|   | Background                    | 1  |
|   | Royal Australian Mint         | 1  |
|   | Site of Proposed Works        | 2  |
|   | Inquiry Process               | 2  |
|   | Inspection and Public Hearing | 3  |
| 2 | The Proposed Works            | 5  |
|   | Purpose                       | 5  |
|   | Need                          | 6  |
|   | Scope                         | 6  |
|   | Project Delivery              | 7  |
|   | Cost                          | 8  |
| 3 | Issues and Conclusions        | 9  |
|   | Project Cost Estimate         | 9  |
|   | Cost-Benefit Analysis         | 10 |

| Options Considered                      | 10 |
|---|----|
| Heritage Considerations                 | 10 |
| Heritage Impact Statement               | 11 |
| Architectural Context                   | 11 |
| National Capital Authority Concerns     | 12 |
| Building Design                         | 12 |
| Office Configuration                    | 12 |
| Sound Attenuation                       | 13 |
| Provision for Persons with a Disability | 13 |
| Landscaping                             | 14 |
| Car Parking                             | 14 |
| Environmental Considerations            | 15 |
| Air-Conditioning                        | 15 |
| Removal of Hazardous Materials          | 16 |
| Previous Projects                       | 16 |
| Cost of Removing Hazardous Materials    | 17 |
| Project Delivery                        | 17 |
| Consultation                            | 18 |
| Tenancy of Administration Building      | 18 |
| Revenue Derived from the Project        | 19 |
| Increase in Visitor Numbers             | 19 |
| Cafeteria                               | 20 |
| Post-Refurbishment Operation            | 20 |

#### APPENDICES

| Appendix A – List of Submissions   | .23 |
|--|-----|
| Appendix B – List of Witnesses   | 25  |
| Appendix C – Submission No. 1 from the Department of Finance and Administration (Property and Construction Division – Finance) | .27 |
| Appendix D – Official Transcript of Evidence   | .73 |

# **Membership of the Committee**

| Chair | Hon Judi Moylan MP |
|-------|--------------------|
|-------|--------------------|

Deputy Chair Mr Brendan O'Connor MP

Members Mr John Forrest MP

Mr Harry Jenkins MP

Mr Bernie Ripoll MP

Mr Barry Wakelin MP

Senator Stephen Parry Senator the Hon Judith Troeth Senator Dana Wortley

## **Committee Secretariat**

| Secretary              | Mrs Margaret Swieringa |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Inquiry Secretaries    | Mr Raymond Knight      |
|                        | Ms Vivienne Courto     |
| Administrative Officer | Mr Peter Ratas         |

# List of Abbreviations

| ABGR   | Australian Building Greenhouse Rating                      |
|--------|--|
| ACT    | Australian Capital Territory                               |
| AHC    | Australian Heritage Commission                             |
| EPBC   | Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act   |
| ESD    | Ecologically Sustainable Development                       |
| EWIS   | Emergency Warning Intercommunication System                |
| DoFA   | Department of Finance and Administration                   |
| Mint   | Royal Australian Mint                                      |
| NABERS | National Australian Built Environment Energy Rating System |
| NCA    | National Capital Authority                                 |
| NCDC   | National Capital Development Commission                    |
| NLA    | Net Lettable Area  |
| OH&S   | Occupational Health and Safety                             |
| DWC    | Public Works Committee                                     |

PWC Public Works Committee

# Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives

No. 40 dated Thursday, June 2005

### 6 PUBLIC WORKS – PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE – REFERENCE OF WORK – REFURBISHMENT OF ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT BUILDING, CANBERRA

Dr Stone (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration), pursuant to notice, moved – That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, the following proposed work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report: Refurbishment of Royal Australian Mint Building, Canberra.

Question – put and passed.

# List of Recommendations

#### 3 Issues and Conclusions

#### **Recommendation 1**

The Committee recommends that the Department of Finance and Administration advise the Committee of the project delivery strategy to be employed, and the reasons for the specific strategy, once this has been determined.

#### **Recommendation 2**

The Committee recommends that the proposed refurbishment of the Royal Australian Mint building, Canberra, proceed at the estimated cost of \$41.2 million.