

PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

Issued: 26 October 2009

Defence facilities referred for parliamentary scrutiny

The Department of Defence proposes the Redevelopment of Tarin Kowt Stage One Project, in Afghanistan. The project will provide upgraded living and working accommodation for Australian Defence Force personnel deployed to Tarin Kowt. The proposed facilities include protected living-in accommodation, kitchen facilities and working accommodation. The project has an estimated cost of \$37.7 million (excluding GST).

The Public Works Committee is responsible for ensuring that the need, cost, value for money and scope proposed for the works is appropriate.

The Committee is keen to hear a wide range of views on the proposed project and public submissions on the proposal are welcomed.

"This project will provide important facilities for Australians serving overseas," said Senator McLucas. "The Committee is concerned to ensure that the facilities will provide appropriate protection and sustainable, longer-term accommodation for members of the Australian Defence Force in Afghanistan."

Full details on the proposal are available on the Committee's website. Submissions close on 12 November 2009.

The Committee will be holding a public hearing with the Department of Defence on the proposal at **8am** on **Thursday 29 October 2009**.

Details of the hearing are:

Committee Room 1R4 Parliament House Canberra

Members of the public are welcome to attend the hearing.

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 office of the Committee Chair, Senator the Hon Jan McLucas on (07) 4031 6009 or the Chair's media advisor, Derek Tipper on 0434 663 757.

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 <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc</u> or contact the Committee Secretariat on 02 6277 4636.