The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

RAAF Base Williamtown Redevelopment Stage 1 and Facilities for the Airborne Early Warning & Control Aircraft

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works

August 2002 Canberra © Commonwealth of Australia 2002 ISBN [Click **here** and type ISBN Number]

Produced by CanPrint Communications Pty Limited

Contents

Membership of the Committee	V
Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives	vii
List of recommendations	.ix

REPORT

1	Introduction	1
	Referral of Work	1
	Background	1
	Inquiry Process	2
	Inspections and Public Hearing	2
2	The Proposed Works	3
	Scope	3
	Purpose and Suitability	4
	Need	4
	Cost	5
	Present and Prospective Public Value	5
3	Issues and Conclusions	7
	Employment	7
	Local and long-term employment	7
	Training and apprenticeships	8
	Costs	9

Airfield user arrangements	9
Project delivery mechanism	
Essential services	
Consultation	11
Conclusion	12

APPENDICES

- Appendix A List of submissions
- Appendix B List of witnesses
- Appendix C Submission No. 1 from the Department of Defence
- Appendix D Official transcript of evidence

Membership of the Committee

Chair Hon Judi Moylan MP

Deputy Chair Mr Brendan O'Connor MP

MembersHouse of RepresentativesSenateMr Harry Jenkins MPSenator Paul CalvertMr Peter Lindsay MPSenator Alan FergusonMr Jim Lloyd MPSenator Michael ForshawMr Bernie Ripoll MPSenator Michael Forshaw

Committee Secretariat

Secretary	Mrs Margaret Swieringa
Inquiry Secretaries	Ms Vivienne Courto
	Ms Marie Kawaja
Administrative Officers	Ms Tiana Gray
	Mr Daniel Miletic

Extract from the Votes and Proceedings of the House of Representatives

No. 32 dated Wednesday, 26 June 2002

26 PUBLIC WORKS—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE— REFERENCE OF WORK—STAGE 1 REDEVELOPMENT AND FACILITIES FOR THE AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING AND CONTROL AIRCRAFT, RAAF BASE WILLIAMTOWN, NEWCASTLE, NSW

Mr Slipper (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: Stage 1 Redevelopment and facilities for the Airborne Early Warning and Control Aircraft, RAAF Base Williamtown, Newcastle, NSW.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

List of recommendations

Recommendation 1

The Committee notes that many submissions express concern at the high unemployment in the Hunter region. The Committee recommends that Defence investigate options and costs for increasing opportunities for trainees and apprentices on works proposed under the RAAF Base Williamtown Redevelopment Stage 1 and construction of the Airborne Early Warning and Control facilities.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that Defence examine costing arrangements relating to commercial use of Defence airfields, and the impact of these on civilian operators, with a view to developing a nationally consistent policy to govern such arrangements.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends that the proposed RAAF Base Williamtown Redevelopment Stage 1 and Airborne Early Warning and Control facilities works proceed, pending ongoing consultation with stakeholder and community groups, and local service authorities, to ensure a holistic and cost-effective approach.