

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT

Issued: 12 May 2009

Chair: Sharon Grierson MP Deputy Chair: Petro Georgiou MP

Public hearing on the Auditor-General's government advertising assurance role

The Public Accounts Committee will hold a further public hearing tomorrow with the Auditor-General and the Audit Office on the Auditor-General's role in assessing compliance of government advertising with guidelines issued in June 2008.

Under the Government's guidelines, the Auditor-General provides assurance on whether advertising campaigns in excess of \$250,000 comply with the guidelines. There were approximately 16 campaigns meeting this threshold in the 2008 calendar year.

The guidelines and related material are available at <u>http://www.finance.gov.au/Advertising/index.html</u>.

The Chair of the committee, Ms Sharon Grierson MP said "This new role of the Auditor-General provides an important accountability function. As we near twelve months since the inception of the guidelines the committee is keen to review how this assurance role is being discharged."

Date: Wednesday, 13 May 2009

Time: 11.45 am—1 pm

Venue: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra.

The hearings will be **webcast live** on: <u>http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/</u>. **For more information:** please contact the Committee chair, Sharon Grierson MP, on 0412 291 654 or the committee secretary on (02) 6277 2316 or visit the website at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/efficdiv/index.htm</u>.