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## **Boosting productivity growth in the new-look economy**

The views of transport and manufacturing unions and economists on how to boost Australia's flagging productivity growth will be heard by the House Economics Committee at a public hearing in Sydney this Friday (4 December).

The House Economics Committee will discuss the strategies to boost and sustain Australia's productivity growth rate in an economy which now has an increasing 'task' rather than 'product' oriented output. Not only does this change the dynamics of the factors of productivity it also influences the way national productivity statistics are measured.

The committee, as part of its inquiry into raising Australia's productivity growth rate, is investigating ways to sustain and boost the national productivity growth rate given the official measure has been declining since 2003-04.

Committee Chair, **Craig Thomson, MP** said: "We will be exploring many of the themes already raised in submissions and hearings about the accurate measurement of official productivity statistics; investment in public infrastructure; private and public research and development, and investment in lifelong education and skills for a technologically sophisticated economy."

The hearing will be held in the **Corinthian Room, SMC Conference and Function Centre, 66 Goulburn Street, Sydney on Friday 4 December.**

The program is outlined below:

9.15 am	Australian Rail, Tram and Bus Industry Union
10.00 am	The Manufacturing Alliance
11.00 am	Dr Philip Laird
11.45 am	Professor Russel Cooper
12.30 pm	Adjournment

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Craig Thomson MP, on (02) 4351 1223 (Electorate Office) or (02) 6277 4460 Parliament House.

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4209, email [economics.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:economics.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/economics>