



Reserve Bank Governor to front House Economics Committee in Canberra this week

9.30am to 12.30pm, Friday, 19 February 2010

The House of Representatives Economics Committee will hold a public hearing with the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, Glenn Stevens, in Canberra on Friday, 19 February 2010.

Since the last public hearing with the RBA on 14 August 2009, the policy cash rate has been increased by 75 basis points. While the RBA kept the cash rate on hold at its last meeting, the Governor stated that 'If economic conditions evolve broadly as expected, the Board considers it likely that monetary policy will, over time, need to be adjusted further in order to ensure that inflation remains consistent with the target over the medium term.'

Mr Thomson said the committee will explore with the RBA the short to medium term outlook for the economy and the risks and opportunities that exist. In particular, the committee will be seeking elaboration on employment trends, forecasts for growth and underlying inflation.

The committee notes comments by the Deputy Governor on 16 December about Bank funding and, in particular, the point that other interest rates relative to the cash rate have increased by about 100 basis point which takes monetary policy into the normal range, though in the expansionary segment of that range. The committee will explore this point in more detail.

Public Hearing Details

Committee:	House of Representatives Economics Committee
Venue	Main Committee Room, Parliament House, Canberra
Date:	Friday, 19 February 2010
Time:	9.30am to 12.30pm
Webcast:	The hearing will be webcast http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair Craig Thomson MP:

Electorate: (02) 4321 1223

Parliament: (02) 6277 4460

Mobile: 0417 042 072

For background information: Please contact the committee secretariat:

Phone: (02) 6277 4564 Email: economics.reps@aph.gov.au Website: www.aph.gov.au/economics