



Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2018-19  
Wednesday, 30 May 2018  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 9.05pm.

The committee called the following departments and agencies of the Defence Portfolio, including Veterans' Affairs (some areas of interest by the committee are listed):

**Department of Defence (continued)**

- Defence property disposal, including remediation of land at Maribyrnong;
- PFAS contamination at Defence bases and remediation strategies;
- statistics on sexual misconduct;
- implementation of the *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender*;
- use of antimalarial drugs in Defence, particularly regarding the use of Mefloquine;
- ADF transition processes; and
- rules regarding alcohol consumption in overseas ports by sailors.

**Defence Housing Australia**

- upgrade to housing at Seaward Village, WA;
- development at Mount Lofty in Toowoomba; and
- process for board appointments.

**Australian War Memorial (AWM)**

- development of detailed business case for additional exhibition space;
- Budget measure - Digitisation and sustainment program;
- Staffing;
- sponsorship and financial contributions from military and defence firms;
- donation from Mr Chau Chak Wing; and
- process for booking function space at AWM.

**Department of Veterans' Affairs**

- Budget measure—Improved Dental and Allied health;
- progress on the implementation of recommendations of the Senate inquiry into suicide by veterans;
- trial of post-traumatic stress disorder assistance dogs for veterans;
- support for Maralinga veterans;
- Non-Liability Health Care arrangements;
- ICT reform;
- MyService online claims processing portal;
- Budget measure—Support for Veterans' Employment Opportunities; and
- Armistice Centenary Grants Program.

The committee completed examination of the Defence Portfolio.

The committee will commence examination of the Foreign Affairs and Trade Portfolio tomorrow, Thursday, 31 May 2018, at 9.00am.