

Watch this space



Army report due in September

A report on the suitability of the Australian Army for peace, peacekeeping and war is due to be released in September. The report follows a 12 month investigation by the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, culminating in a Defence Strategy Debate in June this year (see article pages 4 and 5). For details on the release of the report and how to get copies, call (02) 6277 2313 or email: jscfadt@aph.gov.au

Employee share ownership

For details on the inquiry into employee share ownership and the report of that inquiry, call the House of Representatives Employment, Education and Workplace Relations Committee on (02) 6277 4573, email: eewr.reps@aph.gov.au or visit: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/eewr

The House meets

The House of Representatives will be meeting on the following dates:

- October 3 to 5, 9 to 12, 30 and 31
- November 1 and 2, 6 to 9, 27 to 30
- December 4 to 7

Keep up to date

On the first Wednesday of each month (except January), the House of Representatives publishes an information advertisement on page 2 of *The Australian*. In our 'What's happening at your House?' ad, we inform you about new committee inquiries, upcoming public hearings, new committee reports, House sitting dates and other matters of interest on the work of the House.

Public hearings & Public meetings

As part of their investigations, parliamentary committees hold public hearings and public meetings throughout Australia, talking to people about the issues under investigation. Generally, transcripts from those hearings are available from the relevant committee's web site a few days after the hearing or by contacting the committee secretariat.

Substance abuse hearings commence

On 14 August the House of Representatives Family and Community Affairs Committee held the first public hearing of its new inquiry into substance abuse and the costs to the community. Organisations appearing at the Canberra hearing included the Alcohol and other Drugs Council of Australia, various Commonwealth agencies, the ACT Family and Friends for Drug Law Reform and the ACT Government.

Further hearings on the substance abuse inquiry are planned for Perth from 11 to 13 September, Adelaide on 13 and 14 November, Melbourne on 15 and 16 November, Hobart on 17 November, Brisbane on 20 November and Sydney on 21 and 22 November.

For more information

Visit: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/fca
 Call: (02) 6277 4566
 Email: fca.reps@aph.gov.au
 Fax: (02) 6277 4844

Public good conservation hearings continue

The House of Representatives Environment and Heritage Committee has been conducting a round of public hearings on its inquiry into public good conservation, focusing on the impact of environmental measures imposed on landholders. Hearings were held in Melbourne on 22 August and Canberra on 4 September. Further hearings and inspections are scheduled for Queensland from 11 to 13 September, Canberra on 9 October and New South Wales from 20 to 22 November.

For more information

Visit: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/environ
 Call: (02) 6277 4580
 Email: Environment.Reps@aph.gov.au
 Fax: (02) 6277 4424