



\$66 million office fitout under parliamentary scrutiny

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into the proposed fitout of new premises for the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations in Canberra.

At an estimated cost of \$66.6 million, the project aims to consolidate some of the Department's existing leases in Canberra in a central location at the Corner of Rudd, Marcus Clarke and Alinga Streets, Canberra City (Block 9, Section 31, City.) The fitout proposes to offer new facilities for staff including flexible office design, bicycle parking and a staff gymnasium.

The Committee will conduct a site inspection and public hearing on 6 June as part of its inquiry into the proposal. Committee Chair, Mark Butler MP, welcomes the public to attend the public hearings. "I encourage the public to come along and hear more about this development in the heart of Canberra," Mr Butler said. "The Committee will question the Department on the proposal, in respect of its need, cost, scope, purpose and value for money."

The public hearing will be held this Friday, 6 June in Committee Room 1R4, Parliament House, Canberra. The public hearing will follow scrutiny of the confidential project costs at an in-camera hearing. Public are welcome to attend the hearing commencing at approximately 11.30am.*

* **NB.** These times are subject to change without notice. Members of the public and media are advised to contact the secretariat one hour prior to the hearing for exact commencement times.

For interview: Contact the office of the Committee Chair, Mark Butler MP on (08) 8447 7466.

For further information, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on 0434 567 521.