



Sydney hearings on the efficiency dividend

Parliament's Public Accounts Committee will hold a day of public hearings in Sydney on Monday 8 September as part of its inquiry into the effect of the efficiency dividend on the service delivery, performance and staffing arrangements of smaller public sector agencies.

Federal agencies scheduled to appear include the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, the Sydney-based federal courts and the National Maritime Museum.

"The dividend has encouraged agencies to improve their processes and operate more efficiently," Committee Chair Sharon Grierson MP said.

"However, some agencies are reporting that they are struggling to find further efficiencies and have had to cut services. Other agencies have increased their fee for service work, rather than relying on Parliamentary appropriations."

"We are interested in hearing directly from these agencies at Monday's public hearing," Ms Grierson said.

Monday, 8 September 2008

Conference Room, Level 8, Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices
70 Phillip Street, Sydney

- 9.15am Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
- 10 am Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency
- 10.30 am Australian Communications and Media Authority
- 11.30 am Roundtable with the Federal Court, Federal Magistrates Court and the Administrative Appeals Tribunal
- 1.45pm Australian Law Reform Commission
- 2.15pm Australian National Maritime Museum

A further public hearing is scheduled for Friday, 19 September in Canberra.

The hearings will be **webcast live** on: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>.
For more information: please contact the Committee chair, Sharon Grierson MP, on 02 4926 1555, the inquiry secretary on (02) 6277 4574 or at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/efficdiv/index.htm>.