



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEES

Public Works Committee

Approval of Work

SPEECH

Thursday, 17 September 2015

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

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Questioner		Responder	
Speaker	McCormack, Michael, MP	Question No.	

Mr McCORMACK (Riverina—Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance) (10:20): I move:

That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Fit-out of existing leased premises for the Australian Taxation Office at 121-125 Henry Street, Penrith, New South Wales.

As I advised the House when referring this project to the Public Works Committee, the Australian Taxation Office proposes to undertake a fit-out of existing leased premises at 121-125 Henry Street, Penrith, New South Wales. The ATO has substantially reduced the amount of space it will retain in Penrith, in line with the agency's off-ramping strategy. The reduction in space equates to a saving of \$38.9 million, excluding GST, over 10 years, representing an excellent outcome for the Commonwealth. The new fit-out will provide the ATO with considerable advantages in terms of building design, operating efficiencies and long-term viability through improvements in building infrastructure.

The committee has conducted an inquiry and is of the view that the project signifies value for money for the Commonwealth and constitutes a project that is fit for purpose and expedient to carry out. On behalf of the government, I would like to thank the committee for once again undertaking a timely inquiry. Subject to approval of the project by the parliament, the fit-out is expected to commence in late 2015, with staged practical completion scheduled from mid-2016. I commend the motion to the House.

Question agreed to.