



## Audit report follow-up hearings continue

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Tomorrow, the Public Accounts Committee will continue its program of public hearings examining agency responses to recommendations from a series of performance audit reports tabled by the Auditor General in 2015 and 2016.

**At 9.30 am**, the committee will meet with the Department of Communities to discuss the May 2016 report [Fitting and Maintaining Safety Devices in Public Housing \(Follow-up Audit\)](#). In his summary conclusion [on page 4], then-Auditor General, Colin Murphy, said that six years on from his initial audit into this issue in 2010, he had ‘found some progress and improvement, but not enough’.<sup>1</sup> He expressed disappointment that ‘Housing was unable to confirm that all of its 36,600 properties’ had working residual current devices and smoke alarms.<sup>2</sup> Mr Murphy added that Housing had spent ‘significant time and resources’ since the 2010 report, but had ‘not addressed all the weaknesses and issues identified’ in that initial audit.<sup>3</sup>

**At 10.30 am**, the committee will hear from the Department of Health regarding the November 2015 report [Operating Theatre Efficiency](#). This audit found that across a sample of five hospitals in 2014, ‘nearly a quarter of available theatre time in elective surgery sessions was not used to treat patients’.<sup>4</sup> As a result, it was estimated that ‘approximately 3,000 hours was feasibly available’ across these hospitals ‘to treat many more patients’.<sup>5</sup> Efforts by hospitals to improve efficiency in this area were described as ‘ad-hoc’ and the Auditor General called on the Department of Health to provide ‘improved direction and guidance’ to improve the hospital performances.

The hearings will take place in the **Legislative Assembly Committee Office**, at **Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace**, West Perth and will be **streamed live on the internet**.

Click [here](#) for the committee’s full schedule of June hearings and for the link to the internet streaming service.

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<sup>1</sup> Auditor General, [Fitting and Maintaining Safety Devices in Public Housing \(Follow-up Audit\)](#), Report No. 25, 18 November 2015, p. 4.

<sup>2</sup> Auditor General, [Safety devices managed poorly in public housing](#), Media Release, 11 May 2016.

<sup>3</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Auditor General, [Operating Theatre Efficiency](#), Report Summary, 18 November 2015.

<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*