



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

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The Public Service Commissioner, Mr John Enfield, is to take on two special assignments beginning early in September.

The first, in the Defence portfolio, is to conduct a review of the current practices and procedures for handling asbestos in Defence and former Defence establishments.

The second assignment, in the Attorney-General's portfolio, is to join a small group working under the auspices of the Law Enforcement Policy and Resources Committee which is chaired by the Attorney-General, on the development of a national strategic criminal intelligence capacity as part of the Australian criminal environment assessment and national law enforcement policy projects.

Mr Enfield was the inaugural Commissioner of the Public Service Commission and has made a highly valued contribution in the establishment of the new Commission during the past three years.

The Government will be recommending to the Governor-General the appointment of Mr Denis Ives as the new Public Service Commissioner.

After an extensive career, including ten years in industry-related departments, Mr Ives has been a deputy secretary for the past twelve years, first with the Department of National Development and Energy and its predecessor, then with the Department of Resources and Energy, then with the Department of Primary Industries and Energy, and finally since June 1989 with the Department of Industrial Relations. For the past three months he has been working on temporary secondment as a deputy secretary in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Mr Ives will bring to his new post extensive management experience at senior levels in operating departments.

He is expected to take up his new post on 25 September.