



Department of  
Jobs, Tourism, Science  
and Innovation

**DEFENCE**  
**WEST** 

# Mission update 2020

# Western Australian Defence and Defence Industries Strategic Plan

September 2020 – June 2022



# Delivered



# Next steps



## Ongoing

- » Facilitate connections between Western Australian researchers and industry to meet Defence's emerging technology needs.
- » Implementation of the Veterans and Families Strategy.
- » Development of veteran employment strategies.

\*Subject to COVID-19 restrictions

# Objective 1: Supporting a strong and enduring defence presence

## Delivered

- » Delivered a comprehensive proposal to the Australian Government for WA to be the principal location for Collins class submarine Full Cycle Docking (FCD) maintenance work. (September 2019) This included:
  - independent analysis into the strategic merit of transitioning FCD to WA, and economic impact modelling for the state. This showed transitioning FCD to WA was in the national interest, would create more than 3,000 jobs during the peak of the program and generate \$8.4 billion of state economic activity over the project's life
  - developing a detailed business case including infrastructure and workforce planning to ensure the capability of the Collins class submarines would be maintained
  - delivering a comprehensive education campaign to inform the public on future job opportunities in the defence industry

## Next steps

- » Pending a decision to relocate FCD to WA, work with Defence to develop and action an implementation plan to transition the work to WA.
- » Ensure WA's infrastructure and workforce requirements are met to support WA being the principal location for the sustainment of the Hunter class frigates.
- » Develop a strategic infrastructure plan that identifies key sites for Defence use in regional WA. (December 2020)
- » Examine current requirements for military exercises in North West WA, and outline areas where WA could support further exercises and force projection.
- » Pursue new opportunities presented in the 2020 Defence Force Structure Plan, and work with Defence to meet their capability requirements. (Ongoing)



## Objective 2: Growing the state's defence industry capability and contribution

### Delivered

- » Established the quarterly Defence Advisory Forum chaired by Rear Admiral (rt'd) Raydon Gates AO CSM. Members include key industry groups, Team WA universities and South Metropolitan TAFE. (June 2019)
- » Delivered the WA Indo-Pacific Defence Conference in 2018 and 2019 in partnership with the Perth USAsia Centre.
- » Hosted the largest ever WA presence at the Pacific 2019 International Maritime Exposition in Sydney at the Defence West stand. (August 2019)
- » Attended Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) in London. (September 2019)
- » Significantly expanded industry engagement activities, working with international defence prime contractors to provide supply chain opportunities to local companies.
- » Worked closely with the Australian Government's Centre for Defence Industry Capability (CDIC), Defence Export Office, Austrade, industry associations and individual businesses to increase the capability and capacity of WA industry to deliver for Defence. (ongoing)
- » Increased Defence West's presence in Canberra to promote WA's defence capability to key decision makers. (ongoing within current COVID-19 restrictions)
- » Launched the WA Defence Industry Online Capability Directory as an international resource to showcase the local defence industry. (July 2020)

- » Created and distributed a weekly Defence West newsletter and 'Message from the Defence Advocate' to provide WA defence industry with up-to-date information. (March 2020)

### Next steps

- » Contribute to a whole-of-government plan to enhance the state's advanced manufacturing capability. (Q4 2020)
- » Work with alliance partners to support their Indian Ocean operations and attract them to WA for maintenance work. (Ongoing)
- » Promote WA defence industry capabilities within South East Asia. (Ongoing)
- » Re-engage with the defence industry network through face-to-face events. (Ongoing)
- » Launch the WA Defence Ready initiative which will provide financial support to WA small to medium enterprises to improve their business capabilities in specific areas to assist in meeting Defence's requirements. (Q3 2020)



## Objective 3: Developing strategic infrastructure

### Delivered

- » Established the Strategic Infrastructure Taskforce to lead infrastructure and land planning for the Australian Marine Complex (AMC).
- » Developed the AMC Strategic Infrastructure and Land Use Plan, which provides a comprehensive guide for future land and infrastructure development at the AMC in Henderson, including planning for FCD.
- » Commenced planning and design work on 4 fast tracked infrastructure projects within the AMC, representing more than \$84 million of WA Government investment:
  - AMC 1 wharf extension and the design of a new finger wharf.
  - AMC common user facility vessel transfer path.
  - AMC intersection upgrades at three road junctions.
  - Construction of a new shipbuilding facility in the northern harbour.
- » Commenced a review of the governance and management model for the AMC Common User Facility.

- » Built a collaborative working relationship with Defence to ensure their needs are met in future infrastructure development. (ongoing)

### Next steps

- » Finalise the AMC Strategic Infrastructure and Land Use Plan. (Quarter 4 2020)
- » Undertake planning studies at the AMC to inform future infrastructure development. (Ongoing)
- » Finalise the AMC Common User Facility governance and management review to ensure the management model continues to meet the state's objectives for the future development of the AMC, including Defence's expansion. (September 2020)
- » Work with government, industry and Defence to deliver infrastructure upgrades at the AMC, boosting the state's economy to help deal with COVID-19 and support the needs of Defence and industry sectors. (Ongoing)



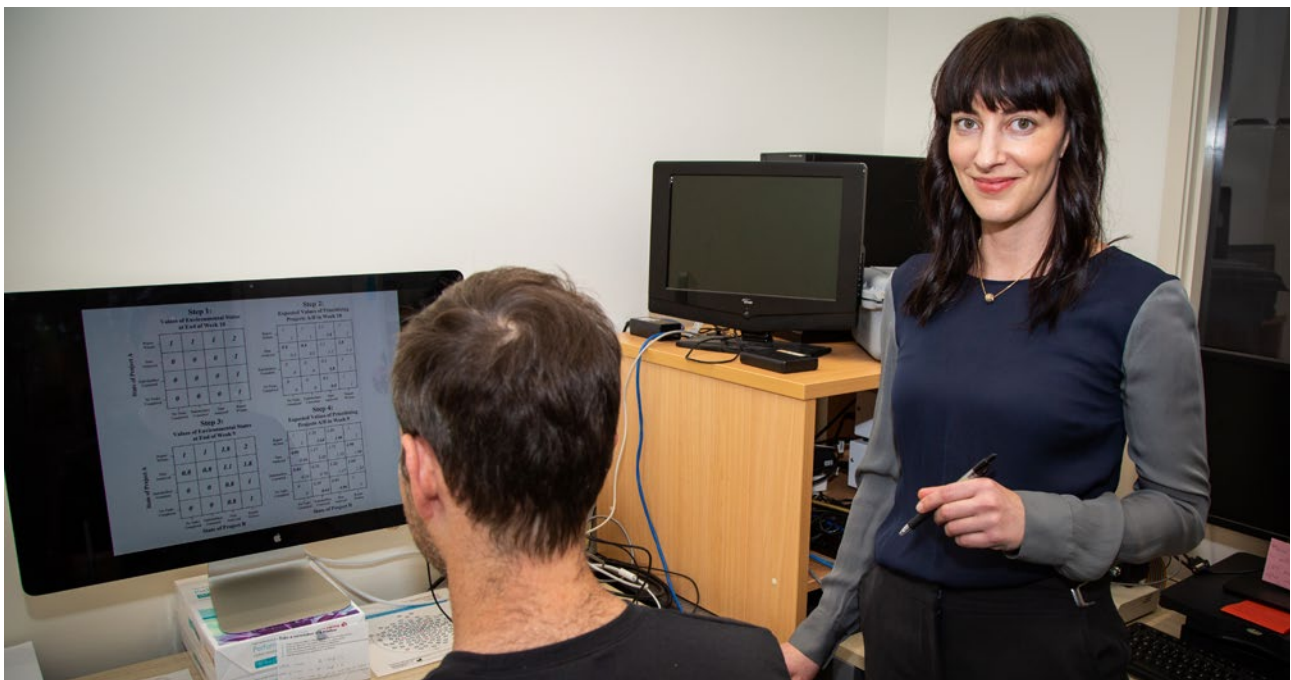
## Objective 4: Building research and innovation partnerships

### Delivered

- » Established the Defence Science Centre (June 2019), which in its first year has:
  - facilitated over 50 industry-academic connections
  - awarded \$700,000 in Defence Science Centre Collaborative Research Grants for research projects
  - awarded 4 Research Higher Degree Student Grants
  - arranged for a Defence Science and Technology Group employee to be embedded within the Defence Science Centre to increase collaboration, assist in the identification of Western Australian defence science capability and identify opportunities for engagement with Defence
  - awarded the first Internship Voucher to help a WA student working on a project at RAAF Base Pearce

### Next steps

- » Implementation of grants that drive collaboration, grow capability and encourage research activity that is relevant to Defence. (Ongoing)
- » Complete a review and analysis of Defence's emerging technology needs, identifying opportunities and pathways to promote Western Australian capability in these areas.
- » Work with the Australian Defence Science and Universities Network to develop a national defence-relevant project that provides opportunities for Western Australian academia and industry to be part of a significant integrated solution for Defence. (June 2021)
- » Deliver the first workshop of the Defence and Research Teaming (DaRT) program aimed at facilitating collaborations to solve particular Defence and defence industry problems. (Q4 2020)



## Objective 5: Advancing education training and skilling

### Delivered

- » Established the WA Defence Industry Workforce Office. (May 2019)
- » Developed the (blue collar) Maritime Defence Industry Workforce Development Plan. (December 2019)
- » Developed a shipbuilding skills profile for required blue collar/trade jobs. (December 2019)
- » Established the Defence Industry Advisory Committee to inform the development of a plan to grow the blue collar workforce. (December 2019)
- » Established the Higher Education Advisory Committee to inform the development of a plan to grow the white and grey collar workforce. (April 2020)

### Next steps

- » Finalise the WA Maritime Defence Industry Workforce Development Plan. (December 2020)
- » Finalise a shipbuilding skills profile for required white and grey collar jobs. (December 2020)
- » Release WA shipbuilding and sustainment industry skills profiles outlining jobs required. (Q1 2021)
- » Complete workforce development plans for the remaining Defence capability streams. (Q4 2021)
- » Continue to enhance the partnership with the Naval Shipbuilding College to develop WA's maritime workforce. (Ongoing)

## Objective 6: Supporting veterans and families

### Delivered

- » Released the WA Veterans and Families Strategy to guide policies and initiatives that promote the wellbeing of WA veterans and their families. (September 2019)
- » Veterans Issues portfolio transferred to Defence West. (July 2020)

### Next steps

- » Implementation of the Veterans and Families Strategy. (Ongoing)
- » Development of veteran employment strategies and enhance links between defence industry and ex services organisations. (Ongoing)

