

## **Barton Deakin Brief: Future Submarines Build Programme**

**26 April 2016**

The Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, the Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, and the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP today announced the builder and location for the Future Submarine Programme. The submarines will be built in South Australia by French manufacturer DCNS. The Future Submarines will replace the fleet of Collins Class submarines currently used by the Royal Australian Navy.

### **Future Submarines**

The Government stated that the 12 Future Submarines will be built in Adelaide, South Australia by French ship and submarine manufacturer [DCNS Australia](#). The Future Submarine Programme will be the largest defence acquisition in Australia's history.

Following a Competitive Evaluation Process (**CEP**) three firms were shortlisted as potential builders: DCNS of France, TKMS of Germany and the Japanese Government led by contractor Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. The CEP process was led by Rear Admiral Greg Sammut AM CSC and Rear Admiral Stephen Johnson USN (ret'd). The process was overseen by an independent Expert Advisory Panel chaired by former Secretary of the United States Navy, Professor Donald Winter. The process was peer reviewed by Vice Admiral Paul Sullivan USN (ret'd) and Rear Admiral Thomas Eccles USN (ret'd). The Minister for Defence stated that the selection of DCNS was based on 'unambiguous advice' from the Department of Defence.

The design of the Future Submarines will begin before the end of 2016, subject to commercial considerations. The Prime Minister and Minister for Defence stated that the Future Submarines would be built with Australian steel.

The Government stated that the Future Submarines Programme will amount to a \$50 billion investment in Australia's defence industries and that it will ensure the continuation of 1,100 jobs and create approximately 1,700 jobs in Australia through the supply chain.

The Defence Minister has previously [stated](#) that the Future Submarines Combat System had been developed by the United States and Australia and will be integrated in Australia. The combat system supplier is yet to be announced.

DCNS Australia is a subsidiary of [DCNS](#), which is based in Paris. DCNS Australia is based in Canberra, and was established in April 2015. It was launched by Minister for Defence Senator the Hon David Johnston and DCNS CEO Hervé Guillou. The CEO of DCNS Australia is Sean Costello.

### **2016 Defence White Paper**

The Government stated that the DCNS proposal met Australia's national security and strategic requirements as outlined in the [2016 Defence White Paper](#) and the [2016 Defence Industry Policy Statement](#).



The 2016 Defence White Paper stated that the key capabilities for the Future Submarines would be anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface vessel warfare, intelligence gathering, surveillance and reconnaissance, and special operations support capacity.

The 2016 Defence White Paper stated the under current timetables the first of the Future Submarines would enter service in the mid 2030s. The construction programme would continue until the late 2040s through a rolling acquisition process. This will include periodic technology and strategic requirement reviews to ensure that the submarines are equipped to meet Australia's defence needs. The first of these reviews will be conducted in the late 2020s.

To view Barton Deakin's Brief on the 2016 Defence White Paper, click [here](#).

### **Continuous Naval Surface Vessel Build**

On 18 April, 2016 the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence announced that the 12 Offshore Patrol Vessels and 21 Pacific Patrol Boats would be built in Adelaide and Henderson, Western Australia. The Government stated that the surface vessels build project would ensure the continuation 2,500 jobs and amounted to a \$40 billion investment in Australia's future naval capabilities and domestic shipbuilding industry.

#### **Offshore Patrol Vessels**

The Offshore Patrol Vessels will be built in Adelaide, with construction to begin in 2018. In 2020 construction will be moved to Henderson, Western Australia. The build programme is worth \$3 billion. There are three shortlisted designs for the vessels. These have been proposed by *Damen* (Netherlands), *Frassmer* (Germany) and *Lurssen* (Germany).

#### **Future Frigates**

The Future Frigates programme will begin construction in Adelaide in 2020. The programme is worth approximately \$35 billion. There are three designs currently being considered for the Future Frigates: the Type 26 Frigate (BAE Systems), the FREMM Frigate (Fincantieri), and a redesigned F100 (Navantia).

#### **Pacific Patrol Boats**

The preferred builder for the Pacific Patrol Boats build programme is Austral Ships. The 21 replacement vessels will be built in Henderson and upon completion will have maintenance conducted from Cains, Queensland. The programme is estimated to be worth \$500 million.

To view the media release from the Prime Minister and the Minister for Defence, click [here](#).

### **Further information**

To view the media release from the Prime Minister, the Minister for Defence and the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, click [here](#).

To view Barton Deakin's Brief on Australia's Naval Shipbuilding Programme, click [here](#).



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