



Western Australia QUARTERLY UPDATE

ASA
AUSTRALIAN
SUBMARINE
AGENCY

Welcome to the sixth edition of the WA Quarterly Update. The Australian Submarine Agency (ASA) is committed to informing our community in Western Australia about our progress towards delivering the AUKUS Optimal Pathway. To read more about our agency, including reading previous editions of this newsletter, please visit our website at www.asa.gov.au
Got questions? Send them to: communityengagement.asa@defence.gov.au



Dive into discovery: New submarine centre surfaces in our community

Western Australians have a unique opportunity to explore life beneath the waves, with the opening of the Submarine Discovery Centre on 17 June 2026 by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, the Hon Richard Marles MP; Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, and Federal Member for Brand, Hon Madeleine King MP; and former Western Australian Minister for Defence Industries, Hon Paul Papalia CSC.

Located in the Gary Holland Community Centre at 19 Kent Street, Rockingham, the Discovery Centre provides an interactive and educational space for the community to learn about Australia's Nuclear-Powered Submarine (NPS) Program. The Discovery Centre will also help the community stay up-to-date as preparations for the rotational presence of UK and US nuclear-powered submarines at HMAS *Stirling*, or Submarine Rotational Force – West (SRF-West), ramp up throughout 2026.

'The new Discovery Centre will be a valuable resource for Rockingham – providing a space for locals and visitors to explore what our investments in AUKUS mean for them, and learn about how we are transitioning to this game changing capability,' said Deputy Prime Minister Marles.

The Discovery Centre is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am – 2pm. For further information, visit <https://www.asa.gov.au/submarine-discovery-centre>.



Quarterly community outreach roundup

From career fairs to Open Days, ASA staff have been out and about across Western Australia, connecting with local communities and sharing information about the NPS Program.

Western Australians are showing growing interest in the nuclear-powered submarine enterprise, particularly on what it means for their communities, local businesses and future career pathways.

During the June 2026 quarter, ASA staff attended the Big Meet Careers Fair – Perth (1 April), Albany Port Open Day (11 April), Rockingham Jobs Fair (22 April), HMAS *Stirling* Open Day (9 May), Careers Day at the Indian Ocean Defence & Security Conference & Exhibition (28 May), Serpentine Jarrahdale Career and Enterprise Expo (19-20 June), and the ASA Propel Scholar Workshop (25 June).

Conversations focused on the AUKUS partnership, the opportunities it will create and how people can get involved.



Bus service initiative for HMAS Stirling

From 2 June 2026, HMAS *Stirling* base personnel and construction contractors have been able to use a new, free bus service to access the base. The service operates on weekdays, providing a direct connection between Rockingham Train Station and key stops within the HMAS *Stirling* precinct, helping to reduce pressure on local roads around Rockingham.

Construction contractors and base personnel can park within a designated fenced area south of Ennis Avenue at Rockingham Train Station. The timetable and route, accessible to personnel through Base Notices, were designed with contractors and base personnel in mind, with extra services during the morning peak and express services to key construction areas.

This initiative is helping to reduce traffic on local roads, reduce pressure on parking within the HMAS *Stirling* site, and reduce the cost to commute for base personnel and construction workers.

Defence and the ASA are working collaboratively with the Western Australian Government and the City of Rockingham to support the planning and delivery of local road upgrades across the Rockingham network.



Update on environmental activities for SRF-West Priority Works

Syngnathid (seahorse) relocation works commenced at Diamantina Pier on 25 May 2026, with 209 individual syngnathids successfully relocated as of 12 June into newly purpose-built habitat cages located safely away from the maritime works. This has been completed in line with the project's EPBC Act Controlled Action commitments to protect marine life within the Controlled Action Area at HMAS *Stirling*. Further syngnathid relocations will commence later in July from Moresby Harbour, prior to commencement of piling.



Defence Housing Australia – Rockingham property pipeline update



DHA property in Rockingham

Defence Housing Australia (DHA) continues to expand its Rockingham property pipeline to support the requirements of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and SRF-West. This is being achieved through a combination of new builds, property acquisitions, and leasing arrangements.

DHA currently manages approximately 790 properties in the region, representing growth of more than 260 properties since July 2024.

DHA is on track to increase this portfolio by approximately 200 additional properties over the next 12 months.

These property programs continue to strengthen DHA's presence in Rockingham and support the delivery of housing in line with increasing regional demand.