



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative

Newsletter | August 2021

A message from AIRCDRE Sandy Turner, Program Manager

I'm very happy to have recently taken on the role as Director General, joining the ASMTI team from Air Force Headquarters where I was Director of Strategic Issues Management. On behalf of the ASMTI team I would like to thank COL Kevin Packham for his leadership over the past four months. COL Packham has ensured continuity and his steadfast approach has seen the Initiative remain on track and in a healthy state, despite the dynamic environment in which we are operating. I would also like to thank the Program Office for the warm welcome I've received.

I have spent some time in Canberra this month and enjoyed meeting the Program Office team and getting my feet under the desk. Going forward I will be based at RAAF Amberley, Queensland. I'm looking forward to meeting many of you, learning a great deal more about the Initiative and seeing continued progress in the construction of the Shoalwater Bay Training Area (SWBTA) expansion and the continued design development of new Greenvale Training Area (GVTA).

This period has been quieter in terms of ASMTI events, however it has been a busy time for community engagement and activity behind the scenes for the SWBTA expansion and the new GVTA.

In June and July, eleven additional work packages were awarded for the delivery phase and construction work at SWBTA, taking the total to 93 work packages, valued in the order of \$346 million. Of these work packages, 62 have been awarded to local companies in the Central Queensland region with 11 awarded to Indigenous businesses. Works continue

at SWBTA and it is pleasing to see the Urban Operations Live Fire (UOLF) facility taking shape.

In July, GVTA Managing Contractor CPB Contractors delivered the GVTA 30% Concept Design Report which includes the concept design for the proposed facilities at GVTA. I thank everybody across Defence and CPB Contractors involved in the many hours of design workshops held last month to work through the design.

Given the unfortunate turn of events across Australia over the past two months with regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, I would like to assure you that Defence continues to take responsible action in the current environment. As such, there has been a delay in our plans to commemorate the Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA) with North Queensland Traditional Owners, Gudjala, Gugu Badhun and Ewamian people. ILUA registrations took place in May and represent a historical milestone for the Traditional Owner groups, and an important step toward the establishment of GVTA and a strengthening of the relationship between Defence and Traditional Owners. Defence is very much looking forward to joining with the Traditional Owners to mark this milestone when state borders reopen and domestic travel restrictions are eased.



UOLF facility construction, SWBTA



Live in Central or North Queensland? Have your Say

The Department of Defence is inviting North and Central Queenslanders to have their say on the Australia-Singapore Military Training Initiative.

The Department of Defence is undertaking a social and economic impact assessment to gain an understanding of the current and future social and economic impacts of Defence and the ASMTI on Central and North Queensland, and broader Australian economies and communities.

Researchers are currently engaging with community members and stakeholders to understand the community's awareness of Defence activity and investment in Central and North Queensland. Members of the public can provide their views via email by Sunday **12 September 2021**.

Further information on the Study and guidance on how to have your say can be found here.

<https://www.defence.gov.au/Initiatives/ASMTI/Home/Assessment.asp>

Temporary Construction Camp at Marlborough

Managing Contractor of SWBTA, Laing O'Rourke remains committed to employing a regional workforce and has proposed the establishment of a temporary construction camp to support the workforce contributing to the development of ASMTI SWBTA facilities in the vicinity of Stoodleigh Road and Stanage Bay Road at SWBTA. Defence supports the proposal to locate the temporary construction camp at Marlborough Caravan Park, to provide accommodation for around 200 construction workers from local subcontractors. The supplementary accommodation option will support workers who would otherwise travel up to 2 hours each way from the Rockhampton and Livingstone areas. Laing O'Rourke is committed to an accident free construction site, this includes ensuring managing driver fatigue of its construction workforce.

In order to benefit the Marlborough community, Laing O'Rourke has come to an agreement with the owner of the

existing Marlborough Caravan Park to utilise the park's existing wet mess and convenience store to service the camp. Locally sought bus transportation will be provided to transport workers from the camp to the Precinct Site Office supporting Laing O'Rourke's strategies to manage driver fatigue and mitigate traffic concerns in the area. The temporary construction camp is expected to be up and running by early November and at completion of works at SWBTA, the majority of infrastructure and facilities will be removed.



Upcoming events

03 November 2021

'Darumbal-Defence partnership on Shoalwater Bay Training Area' presentation at the Australian Defence Magazine (ADM) Estate and Base Services Summit in Canberra.

Have your say!

Is the ASMTI newsletter useful for you and your business? Is there something you'd like us to include? We'd love to hear from you so we can make sure we're hitting the mark. Our survey will take less than 2 minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=DQSlkWdsW0yxEjajBLZtrQAAAAAAAAAAAAANjPdFdNUMzIXOTNPOEtIN0FIODhIV0VMSzg4WVvk2NS4u>

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