

COMMITTEE INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 4)

Senator Anthony Chisholm asked the Department for Defence, upon notice, on 06 August 2021:

CHAIR: When is Defence expecting to provide cabinet with advice on second-gate/final approval for the life-of-type extension?

Mr Dalton: I'll take that one on notice, the second pass for the Collins life-of-type extension.

CHAIR: When is it necessary to have approval for the life-of-type extension to begin?

Mr Dalton: I would say that Defence has been planning for the life-of-type extension for the Collins class submarine for some time, so that work is underway now. The window to make a decision about a replacement for the Collins class submarine without a life-of-type extension effectively closed in 2011. The first submarine to need a life-of-type extension will be *HMAS Farncomb*, and she will become due to enter into life-of-type extension in 2026.

Senator Chisholm – The Department of Defence has provided the following answer to the Senator's question:

Second pass approval for the Collins class submarine life-of-type extension core work package is planned to be sought in 2022-23.