

INQUIRY QUESTION

(Question No. 1)

Ms Lisa Chesters MP asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 23 October 2024:

There are concerns regarding the increased development around Osborne, Stirling and Henderson and the impact of a growing population and infrastructure, e.g. roads, housing, schools. Who would be responsible for ensuring the infrastructure needs of people coming in to work on the submarines? Is it your responsibility or another area's to address these concerns?

Defence provides the following answer:

Defence, through the Security and Estate Group, has responsibility for delivering infrastructure on the Defence estate including living-in accommodation for single or unaccompanied Defence personnel. Security and Estate Group is also responsible for forecasting the Department's housing needs to Defence Housing Australia.

The Commonwealth has signed separate Cooperation Agreements with the South Australian and Western Australian governments to realise shared strategic outcomes and to support the delivery of Australia's naval shipbuilding and submarine capabilities. Defence is the Commonwealth's lead agency in relation to the Cooperation Agreements.

Defence is working closely with the Western Australian Government and relevant local councils, to ensure Defence needs at HMAS *Stirling* and Henderson align with the needs of the Western Australian Government, local councils and industry, and neighbouring communities.

At Osborne, the Australian Submarine Agency and Australian Naval Infrastructure, the Government's appointed infrastructure delivery partner, are working collaboratively with the South Australian Government to progress master-planning for the LeFevre Peninsula. This will ensure the LeFevre Peninsula is well placed to deliver on its critical national role, whilst also supporting industry, and the local community. The South Australian Government has recently appointed COX Pty Ltd to undertake master planning for the LeFevre Peninsula. This updated master plan will support a range of activities, including traffic flow, emergency services and community spaces.