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## **Defence proposes facilities to support newly acquired vehicles at various bases**

The Public Works Committee is conducting an inquiry into a proposal by the Department of Defence to deliver new and upgraded facilities to support recently acquired vehicles at several military bases and barracks across Australia.

Defence has told the Public Works Committee that it will be purchasing a new fleet of 7500 protected and unprotected vehicles, capable of providing battlefield mobility, logistics support and tactical training. As they are larger and heavier than previous fleets, existing facilities will no longer be adequate. Consequently, new and refurbished facilities are required, including maintenance workshops, weighbridges, loading ramps, storage and parking.

Works will be undertaken at Lavarack and Gallipoli Barracks, Queensland, RAAF Base Williamstown and Holsworthy Barracks, New South Wales, Puckapunyal Military Area, Victoria, Campbell Barracks, Western Australia, RAAF Base Edinburgh, South Australia and Robertson Barracks, Northern Territory.

The works are expected to commence in mid-2016, with staged completion taking place between late 2016 and mid-2019. The estimated cost of the project is \$276.5 million (excluding GST).

The Committee Chair, Senator Dean Smith, said the Committee will conduct public and in-camera hearings for the inquiry in the near future.

Full details on the project are available on the Committee's website: [www.aph.gov.au/pwc](http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc)

### **Submissions to the inquiry close on 22 October 2015.**

Full details of the public hearing will be available soon.

**NB** the Public Works Committee is neither involved in the tendering process nor the awarding of contracts. Enquiries on those matters should be addressed to the Department of Defence.

**For interview:** Contact the Chair's office on (08) 9481 0349.

**For further information**, including how to make a submission, the public hearing times, and copies of submissions when they become available, please visit the Committee website <http://www.aph.gov.au/pwc> or contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4636.