

JP 8218 RFP pitched to industry



THE COMMONWEALTH HAS released the request for proposals (RFP) for the project charged with building the Australian Defence Force's (ADF) deployable theatre infrastructure capability.

The Joint Project 8218 RFP invites industry to indicate its ability to provide deployable camp and logistics facilities, collectively referred to as the Theatre Logistics Deployable Infrastructure (TLDI). The TLDI comprises Deployable Camp Infrastructure (DCI) and Deployable Logistics Working Facilities (DLWF).

As outlined in the RFP, the Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group proposes a two-stage, accelerated procurement approach to deliver the TLDI capability and support broader uplift within the Defence logistics network (DLN).

The TLDI will better support the DLN by providing deployable capabilities that

ABOVE: Joint Project 8218 seeks to provide the ADF with deployable camp and logistics facilities for up to 1,500 personnel. Image: Hammerstone

are scalable and modular to sustain the ADF's operations, activities and actions. The DCI will achieve this by uplifting personnel support via a scalable, agile and self-sufficient deployable camp system with the required life-support functions and services, whilst the DLWF will uplift maintenance support and shorten lines of supply by providing a deployable maintenance capability, deployable warehousing capabilities, working facilities and command and control facilities.

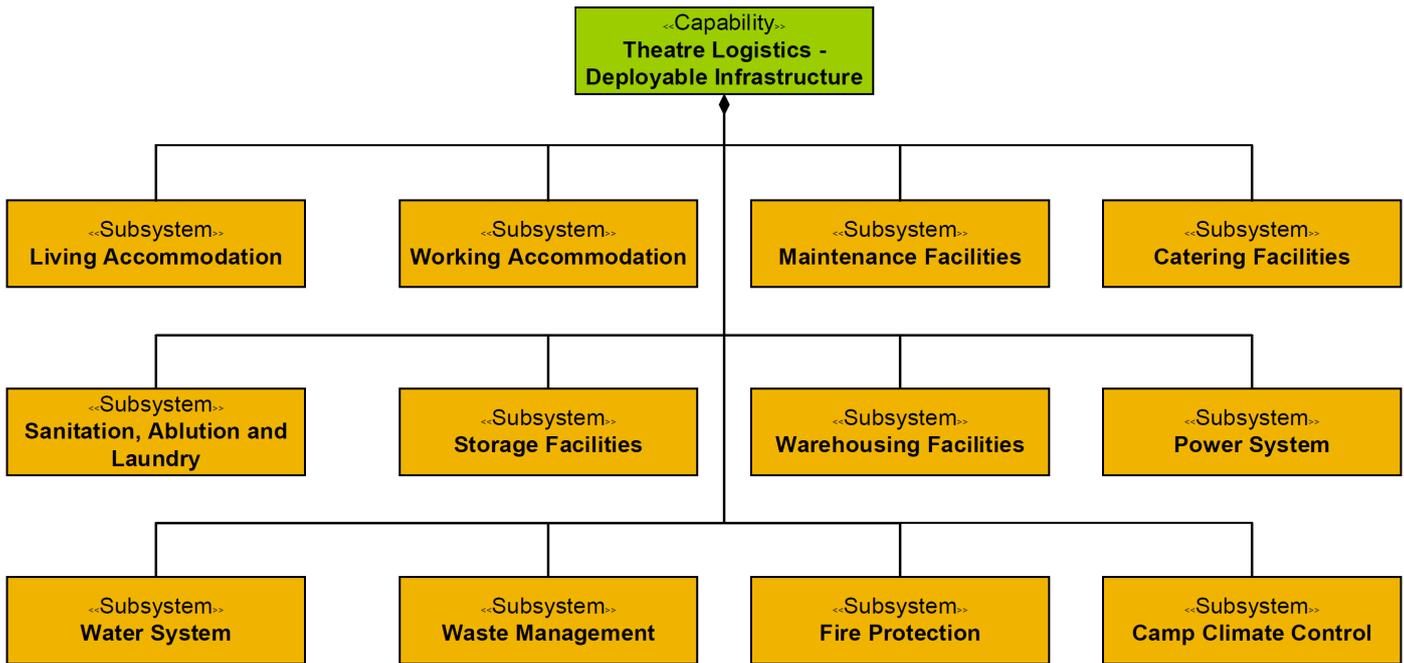
It is envisioned that the DCI needs to

be able to scale up and down to service approximately 75, 150 and 1,500 people, with the Commonwealth seeking industry's suggestions regarding the modularity of their respective DCI capability.

The functional architecture of the DLWF will reside in the interconnecting sub-systems, which include working accommodation, maintenance facilities, warehousing, power and water systems, waste management, fire protection and camp climate control.

It is envisioned that the TLDI will include a range of other features or components that enable the DCI and DLWF to function as designed or to add comfort for a deployed force. These features or components include ground cover, internal/external lighting, internal flooring, furniture and all-weather walkways.

Following the RFP process, the Commonwealth intends to conduct a request for tender in or around Q3 2026 with short-listed respondents. As part



ABOVE: The architecture of the Theatre Logistics Deployable Infrastructure planned for introduction by Joint Project 8218. Image: Aust DoD

of this process, short-listed respondents may instead be asked to participate in a project definition study to further refine their respective proposals. Contract signature with the preferred prime systems integrator is anticipated late in Q2 2027, with the complete TLDI package to be delivered by December 2030.

AIC REQUIREMENTS

JP 8218 places strong emphasis on Australian industry capability (AIC), with respondents required to identify opportunities for Australian companies to participate in the supply chain and outline how a proposal will contribute to building sovereign industrial capability. Suppliers must also identify any overseas dependencies that could affect supply chain resilience, including the country of origin of critical products, materials and services, with sufficient detail to assess supply chain reliability and vulnerabilities, noting the critical importance of a resilient domestic supply chain.

While price is an important consideration, Defence has made it clear that proposals will be evaluated across multiple factors. To this end, the RFP outlines nine evaluation criteria:

THE COMMONWEALTH INTENDS TO CONDUCT A REQUEST FOR TENDER WITH SHORT-LISTED RESPONDENTS.

- Past performance on similar contracts;
- Overall compliance with the RFP;
- Technical and functional solution fit;
- Risk profile;
- Corporate and financial viability;
- Technical and managerial capability;
- Indicative pricing structure;
- Delivery schedule; and
- Value of work performed in Australia

This balanced evaluation approach reflects Defence's objective of selecting suppliers that can deliver capable, reliable and sustainable solutions rather

than simply the lowest cost option.

JP 8218 represents a significant opportunity for Australian and international defence industry to contribute to the modernisation of the ADF's logistics infrastructure. The project aligns directly with Defence's strategic objectives to improve the resilience of the DLN, support distributed operations across the Indo-Pacific, strengthen sovereign industrial capability and deliver deployable infrastructure that can support both military operations and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions.

Industry responses to the JP 8218 RFP are due by 25 May 2026. **DTR**

- Ian Bostock