

Cleanaway and Defence to optimise resource recovery and industry participation through waste management contract in QLD and WA

Cleanaway has been announced as the new Resource Recovery and Waste Management contractor for Defence in Queensland (QLD) and Western Australia (WA) in a six-year partnership that has the potential to extend to 2035.

Operational from 31 March 2025, the contract includes scheduled work and Survey & Quote projects, supporting Defence events and exercises and is aligned to the Federal Government's 80% waste diversion target by 2030. Underpinned by clear goals for First Nations, veterans and social enterprise impact, the new agreement promises an exciting way forward for Defence and Cleanaway.

Cleanaway CEO and Managing Director, Mark Schubert said, "We're proud to bring our sustainability expertise and extensive service capability to Defence's Base Services program. The contract will drive growth in our QLD and WA regions and create opportunities to increase our positive social and economic impact for local communities."

Defence spokesperson, Luke McLeod said, "We're excited to welcome Cleanaway as part of our Base Services team of industry partners. Cleanaway has demonstrated their commitment to working collaboratively in the delivery of Base Services and to our shared vision for increased resource recovery and social impact."

As an Australian owned and operated business employing almost 3000 people in QLD and WA, Cleanaway is well-established in these two regions. Cleanaway's network maps closely to Defence locations, ensuring high levels of directly delivered service which creates jobs and provides economic benefit to local business, keeping procurement and investment within the Australian economy. Our in-house expertise and scale in these regions will also support Defence's operational continuity.

Cleanaway will provide a dedicated account team structured to respond to demand-driven, surge and emergency requirements. In addition to exceptional levels of service, Cleanaway will provide a resource recovery and waste management roadmap that prioritises engagement, education and innovation. Aligned with the Australian Waste Policy 2030, our unique approach brings together service data with a deep understanding of what drives landfill diversion to ensure every site can individually achieve their goals.

Cleanaway's leadership and investment in high circularity, low carbon solutions align to the Federal Government's "Made in Australia" strategy. We see this being delivered through on-site resource recovery hubs, data-informed sustainability insights and industry partnerships to optimise the potential for circular outcomes for key materials.

The new contract was signed on Thursday 19 December at an event in Canberra attended by Defence First Assistant Secretary – Service Delivery, Lee-Anne Monterosso and Assistant Secretary Base Services Transformation – Luke McLeod. Cleanaway CFO Paul Binfield, EGM – LHS & IWS Scott Nicholls, and EGM – Customer and Growth Chris Avramopoulos attended to sign the new contract and welcome Defence as a new customer.

Cleanaway Waste Management Ltd is Australia's leading waste management company, with a national network of unique collection, processing, treatment, and landfill assets. Cleanaway operates from more than 300 locations and employs more than 7,600 people. Our philosophy is that all waste is a resource and we aim to incorporate recovery, recycling, and reuse throughout our operations and those of our clients. Our mission is making a sustainable future possible together for all our stakeholders.

Australia's waste industry directly and indirectly employs more than 50,000 Australians and provides essential services to the community.

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Media

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