



Senior Executive Service Band 1

Branch Head - Industry and Supply Chain Uplift and Engagement

Job Reference Number: ASA/07338/25

Position Location: Majura Park – ACT/ Port Adelaide – SA/Melbourne – VIC

Employment Status: Ongoing Full time or Non-Ongoing - Full time for up to five years

Security Level: TSPV

Group: Australian Submarine Agency PEO Submarines

Contact Officer: Karina Duffey and Tricia Searson – please quote 1017
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Closing Date: 11:30pm (AEST), Wednesday 24 September 2025

Extensions may be granted in exceptional circumstances only



Introduction

Australia's acquisition of conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines is historic and transformational. The Optimal Pathway announced on 14 March 2023, will deliver Australia a world-class capability that will see our nation become one of only seven countries that operate nuclear-powered submarines. This game changing capability will enhance Australia's capacity to deter conflict and support security, peace and economic prosperity in the Indo-Pacific.

This significant undertaking presents an exciting opportunity for dedicated, committed and aspirational leaders to lead, develop and shape the Australian Nuclear Submarine Program.

Your Role

As the branch head, Industry & Supply Chain Uplift and Engagement, you will lead the design, implementation, and management of programs to build Australia's sovereign industrial capability in support of the Optimal Pathway. You will be responsible for engaging industry partners, overseeing delivery programs, advising government, and coordinating across ASA and Defence to ensure uplift initiatives are targeted, impactful, and aligned to strategic submarine program needs.

Reporting to the Head of Division, you will work in partnership with internal delivery teams and external stakeholders to address structural gaps, manage risk, and build a resilient industrial base that supports the current and future submarine fleet.

Key Responsibilities

This role involves shaping the future industry and supply chain capabilities, engaging with key stakeholders, and providing expert advice to senior government decision-makers. You will be instrumental in driving initiatives to address critical industry gaps, while maintaining strong collaborations across government, industry, and Defence stakeholders.

1. Oversee the delivery of funded uplift programs in collaboration with Sovereign Submarine Partners (SSPs), Tier 1 contractors, state governments, and Commonwealth agencies. Ensure initiatives are executed to standard, aligned with capability outcomes, and responsive to industry conditions.
2. Build strong relationships with Australian and international industrial stakeholders. Lead ASA's industry outreach, advocate for AUKUS opportunities, and clearly communicate demand signals to promote capability alignment and long-term investment.
3. Work closely with Sustainment, Virginia Class, SSN-AUKUS, Technology and Infrastructure programs to define industrial requirements, ensure alignment with national objectives, and integrate supply chain development into delivery planning.
4. Develop mechanisms to assess and report on the maturity, capacity, and responsiveness of Australia's submarine industry. Provide trusted advice to senior stakeholders and recommend strategic interventions to maintain program momentum.
5. Identify structural market gaps or program inefficiencies. Develop and advise on policy responses, procurement strategies, and funding proposals to increase the effectiveness and coordination of uplift activities.

6. Coordinate with Defence, broader Whole of Australian Government and trilateral partners to ensure that Australian uplift efforts complement broader national and international strategies.
7. Contribute to internal governance, including reporting to ASA executive, Ministers, and trilateral program management bodies. Ensure compliance with performance metrics, funding agreements, and legislative obligations.
8. Demonstrate leadership with integrity, inclusion, and respect. Champion the Agency's Nuclear Mindset values and uphold the APS Code of Conduct in all aspects of decision-making and engagement.
9. Create and sustain a strong, performance-driven culture within the division. Promote safety, diversity, and inclusion, and ensure the workforce environment is aligned with the unique demands and complexity of a national nuclear enterprise.

Key Requirements

Essential

- Demonstrated experience in industrial policy, program implementation, or supply chain capability development.
- Strong leadership and stakeholder engagement skills across industry and government.
- Experience managing multi-stakeholder programs in complex and high-pressure environments.

Desirable

- Familiarity with Defence, the naval shipbuilding sector, or major capability programs.
- Experience working in international partnership contexts.
- Understanding of strategic investment planning or government-industry engagement frameworks.

Our Agency

The Nuclear Powered Submarine Taskforce was established in September 2021 to identify the Optimal Pathway to deliver conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines for Australia. The Optimal Pathway for Australia's acquisition of nuclear-powered submarines was announced by Prime Minister Albanese with President Biden and Prime Minister Sunak on 14 March 2023.

As part of the announcement, the Australian Government determined a new entity, the Australian Submarine Agency (ASA), would be established with responsibility and accountability for the safe and secure delivery of Australia's nuclear-powered submarines. The ASA is an Executive Agency that reports directly to the Minister for Defence while remaining in the Defence Portfolio to ensure the integrated delivery of military capability.

The ASA will safely and securely acquire, construct, deliver, technically govern, sustain and dispose of Australia's conventionally-armed nuclear-powered submarine capability, through the AUKUS partnership.

The ASA works in concert with AUKUS partners, across Australian Government departments and agencies, and with States and Territories to deliver this whole-of-nation program.

Nuclear Mindset

Management and operation of nuclear-propulsion technology requires exceptionally high standards, an absolute focus on safety to avoid incidents and commitment to security to avoid its misuse. Australia's acquisition of conventionally-armed, nuclear-powered submarines will require the attainment of a nuclear mindset for the safe, secure and effective cradle-to-grave management of this capability.

The nuclear mindset is the foundation for every action, decision, policy and behaviour to ensure we keep our communities, personnel and environment safe and secure. The adoption of a nuclear mindset demands precision, excellence, attention to detail and an inherent curiosity, and each member is responsible and accountable for exhibiting and ensuring the appropriate mindset thrives.

This is an exciting, unique and once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to work on a program of national and international significance. The Agency is an integrated civilian and military workforce that draws on high-quality and high-performing team members from diverse backgrounds and disciplines who embody Defence and Australian Public Service values and work every day with a nuclear mindset.

Additional Information

Engagement may be negotiated on an ongoing or non-ongoing basis. To be eligible, applicants must be Australian citizens or receive additional approvals to work within the Agency. This is a security-designated position and the successful applicant will be required to hold or obtain a Top Secret security clearance, and undergo additional security screening protocols.

A Merit Pool of suitable candidates will be established to fill similar vacancies that may occur within the next 18 months.

If, after reading the selection documentation, you require further information please contact Karina Duffey or Tricia Searson at Executive Intelligence Group on (02) 6232 2200 or admin@execintell.com.au quoting reference number 1017.

For Senior Executive Service administrative recruitment enquiries please contact DPG Senior Officer Management at DPG.DSOM@defence.gov.au

Remuneration and Relocation Assistance


The remuneration package includes superannuation, and, where applicable, relocation expenses. The salary component for this position may be negotiated.

ASA provides relocation assistance to eligible APS employees required to relocate. The level of assistance will vary depending on the reason for relocating and your personal circumstances.

Our Organisation

Australian Public Service (APS) employees are engaged in an array of occupations, across Australia and around the world.

You will enjoy experiences and opportunities that, as an APS employee, you simply would not get in any other organisation. You are able to undertake interesting, challenging and unique work. This ranges from intelligence and strategic policy right through to human resources, communications, infrastructure and engineering, and information technology.



We are committed to recruiting the right people, in the right jobs, at the right time - whether it is creating, acquiring or delivering ASA capability. Our greatest asset is our people. A more diverse workforce supported by an inclusive culture enhances our capability and effectiveness, as it draws on different ideas to innovate and adapt to a rapidly evolving strategic environment and the changing nature of warfare.

How to Apply

Apply for this role by submitting your application through our [online recruitment system \(eRecruit\)](#) located at ASA APS Careers. If you have any questions regarding this role, email the contact officer.

For more information please refer to the [Applicant User Guide](#). Further advice on addressing selection criteria can be found in '[Cracking the Code](#)' publication located on the Australian Public Service Commission website.

Vacancies will be extended **in exceptional circumstances only**. Applicants requesting an extension must contact the Contact Officer **24 hours prior** to the vacancy closing date.

In your application you should provide a copy of your current Resume/CV and address the following:

Assessment Criteria

Applicants are asked to provide an up to 600 word application addressing their claims against the Position Description and Duty Statement contained within this Information Pack, with a focus on leadership, integrity and results.

PLEASE NOTE: ASA APS Careers is for job seekers only. We do not accept unsolicited resumes or applications from recruitment agencies and/or search firms and will not pay fees to any such organisations unless arranged with the provider prior to advertising the vacancy.

Eligibility

Employment with the Australian Submarine Agency is subject to conditions prescribed within the Public Service Act 1999.

Citizenship – To be eligible for employment within the Defence portfolio, applicants must be an Australian citizen and this requirement can be waived only in exceptional circumstances.


Health Assessment - As a condition of engagement, a mandatory pre-employment health assessment may be required where there are physical or medical requirements for the role. Your contact officer can provide further guidance on whether this is required for your role.

Organisational Suitability - Due to the sensitive work undertaken by certain teams, there may be the requirement to undertake additional suitability screening.

Security Clearance – The Australian community requires the highest level of integrity from public servants. The preferred applicant will be required to successfully undergo the [security clearance](#) vetting process at a specified clearance level.

Further information can be provided in the [Australian Government Security Clearance Applicant Guide Book](#). Please ensure that you read this information thoroughly and confirm that you meet the minimum requirements to be eligible to hold a security clearance at the required level. Please ensure that you are able to provide the necessary documents if you apply for the position. The security clearance level required for this position can be found on the front page of this Information Pack.

More information on the security clearance vetting process is available on the [AGSVA website](#).



**Thank you for your interest
Australian Submarine Agency**