

Summary of Meeting – 15 August 2017

The 41st meeting of the Defence DVA Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held in Canberra on 15 August 2017. The following matters were discussed at the meeting.

Transition

The Committee received an update from the Transition Taskforce. The Taskforce, comprising Defence, DVA and CSC have completed their Discovery stage. A report outlining the findings and articulating recommendations is being prepared for consideration by the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel.

Policy, Programme and Initiatives

The Committee were informed of the expansion to the Non Liability Health Care arrangements to include all mental health conditions. The Committee were also provided with an update on the White Card on Exit initiative which seeks to improve and streamline access to Non Liability Health Care.

The Committee were informed of the MRCA Long Term Study which will examine the effectiveness of rehabilitation under the MRCA over the long-term.

Other updates were provided on the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Initiative and the Female Veterans' Policy Forum.

Reports Back

The Committee discussed the Government Response to the Senate Inquiry into suicide by veterans and ex-service personnel which has been jointly developed by the Departments of Veterans' Affairs, Defence and Health. The Committee also noted that the Senate Report on Suicide by Veterans was due to be tabled on 15 August 2017.

The Committee received reports on a range of other issues, including the Support Continuum Performance Report, the Defence/DVA Research Advisory Committee and Mefloquine.

Other Business

Other issues discussed included the use of data analytics as a key driver of transformation within DVA in the delivery of services to veterans and their families.