

## **Summary of Meeting – 1 April 2021**

The 55<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Defence / Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held via GovTEAMS on Thursday, 1 April 2021. The following matters were discussed at the meeting.

### **Policy, Programme and Initiatives**

The Committee noted the ongoing collaboration between Defence and DVA across the key performance areas and outcomes of the Quarter 3 and 4, 2020 Support Continuum Performance Report.

The Committee discussed the Defence Initiated Claims Initiative and agreed to proceed with the planned Pilot, with the next steps being to refine the Pilot scope and agree the final principles and intent.

### **Reports Back**

The Committee was provided with updates on the Defence-DVA Electronic Information Exchange (DDEIE) and Request Management System (RMS) Project Delivery, the Enhanced Delivery of DVA Services on ADF Bases and a Defence Act Update.

The Committee noted that the RMS Project Release 1 was delivered on 1 March 2021, with Release 2 to provide an integrated, end-to-end solution by the end of August 2021.

The Committee noted that in regards to the Enhanced Delivery of DVA Services on ADF Bases that there was a slowing down of activity over the December 2020/January 2021 period and that this increased again during February 2021. Veteran Support Officers (VSOs) work with 17,000 – 20,000 people per year, with over 1,000 supported to transition per year.

The Committee noted the Defence Act Project and the workforce legislative reform proposals that have been endorsed by the Defence People Committee to date. The proposed reforms focussed on three themes:

- an integrated Defence workforce;
- ADF structure and service obligations; and
- ADF lifetime wellbeing and transition.

The Committee was also provided a verbal update of the Future of Veteran Centric Reform and the Joint Transition Authority.

### **Other Business**

Members agreed on a new structure for the Agenda to include three themes: strategy, governance, and performance. The next DLSC meeting has been scheduled for June 2021.