

Department of Defence / Department of Veterans' Affairs
Links Steering Committee

Summary of Meeting – 14 November 2025

The 72nd meeting of the Department of Defence/Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held on Friday 14 November 2025. The following policy, programs and initiatives were discussed at the meeting.

Strategy

The committee discussed the implementation of MYEFO initiatives, the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (RCDVS) and the update on establishment of a new agency focused on wellbeing and, an ESO peak body.

A taskforce responsible for coordinating implementation of MYEFO measures will be created and will work closely with DVA business areas responsible for the individual initiatives. Defence Links Steering Committee (DLSC) and Defence DVA Executive Committee (DDEC) will provide governance to this committee.

The new wellbeing agency will be embedded in DVA and headed by a Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The CEO will work closely with DVA Secretary and will report through Defence and DVA committees.

Members were advised that the Women's Veterans Strategy continues under development.

Performance

Members discussed the progress on the legislation to implement RCDVS outcomes and further planned legislation.

It was agreed that Defence and DVA would jointly seek agreement from the Ministers by the end of 2025 on measures to be included in Defence Legislation Amendment (RCDVS Implementation and Related Measures) Bill.

Other Business

Members were provided an update on Veterans' and Families' Hubs (Hubs), the continuation of the Transition Medical Assessment Pilot Project (TMAPP), and the Veterans Chaplaincy Program Pilot.

DVA and Defence continue to work closely on recommendations from the RCDVS. Activities underway through VF-LINK are directly related to numerous Royal Commission recommendations and are reflected in several Defence Reform Management Plans and DVA Project Plans.