



Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide - continued implementation

Establish the National Veterans' Data Asset

This measure provides \$29.8 million over 3 years from 2026-27 to establish the National Veterans' Data Asset (NVDA).

This measure directly implements Recommendation 107 of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide (the Royal Commission), which calls for the establishment of the NVDA.

Implemented in accordance with the *Privacy Act 1988*, the NVDA will be a comprehensive data resource, bringing together information from Defence, the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA), and State and Territory sources so that Government, researchers and policymakers can develop a greater understanding of suicide and related risk factors.

The implementation of the NVDA will be a joint exercise delivered by:

- Department of Veterans' Affairs - \$12.9 million over 3 years
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare - \$6.8 million over 3 years
- Australian Bureau of Statistics - \$10.1 million over 3 years
- Digital Transformation Agency - \$0.1 million over 3 years
- Department of Defence – costs met from within existing resources
- National Suicide Prevention Office – costs met from within existing resources

Why is this important?

This measure directly implements Recommendation 107 of the Royal Commission, which calls for the establishment of the NVDA.

The Royal Commission recommended that data relevant to suicidality, wellbeing and health among current and former service personnel should be integrated across Government, allowing better decision making to support veteran health and wellbeing.

The establishment of the NVDA will also support the implementation of further Royal Commission recommendations, including:

- informing Comcare's regulatory approach to preventing psychosocial harm (Recommendation 58),
- enabling research into the health and wellbeing of Defence families (Recommendation 121), and
- supporting the Veteran and Family Wellbeing Agency (Recommendation 87) in co-designing wellbeing support programs and services.

The NVDA will be a comprehensive data resource to support monitoring and research into improving health and wellbeing outcomes for veterans and their families.

Who will benefit?

Australian veterans and families of veterans.

Date of effect?

The establishment of the NVDA will commence from 1 July 2026.

How much will this cost?

\$29.8 million over 3 years from 2026-27.