



Royal Commission Implementation Committee

Meeting Overview

21 April 2026

Welcome, apologies and conflict of interest

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Royal Commission Implementation Committee (RCIC) met on 21 April 2026 to discuss activities under way to support the delivery of DVA led or joint-led Recommendations.

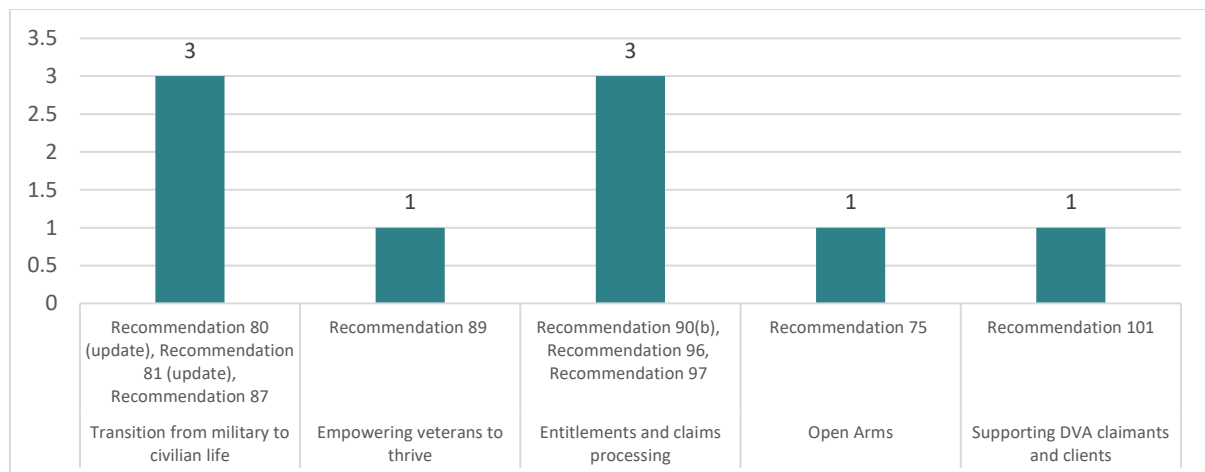
Progress Report

The RCIC noted there are 37 DVA-led or joint-led recommendations (out of 40) have been considered by the RCIC, with the remaining three to be progressed through out-of-session consideration. The RCIC noted there are six recommendations that have been implemented (pending closure), representing an increase of two from the previous meeting.

Forward Work Plan

The RCIC discussed the proposed Forward Work Plan for 2026, emphasising the importance of sequencing recommendations well in advance of delivery dates to enable timely review and advice.

Recommendations for discussion by theme



Veterans' Ministerial Council Priorities

The RCIC noted the update on engagement with States and Territories.

RCIC members discussed the benefits of continued engagement through the Commonwealth, State and Territory Committee (CSTC) and the Veterans' Ministerial Council (VMC), supporting coordinated implementation across jurisdictions.

Risk review

The RCIC considered risks associated with the delivery of recommendations, with a focus on those with milestones in 2026, and discussed the importance of closely monitoring key milestones outlined in project plans ahead of delivery, enabling timely support and advice.

The RCIC noted an update on **Recommendations 80, 81 and 87** as a cohort with updates provided on progress to date and agreed next steps:

- **Recommendation 80**: the Department of Veterans' Affairs to take responsibility for supporting members to transition out of the Australian Defence Force
- **Recommendation 81**: the Department of Veterans' Affairs to fund a program to support members' wellbeing during transition to civilian life
- **Recommendation 87**: establish a new agency to support veteran wellbeing
 - The establishment of the agency (**Recommendation 87**) provides for the coordinated delivery of the following recommendations, which are linked in the Final Report's description of agency operations.
 - DVA to take responsibility for supporting members to transition out of the ADF (**Recommendation 80**). This represents a shift in responsibility, requiring redesigning transition services. The intent is to provide a more seamless, veteran centric transition experience that extends beyond separation.
 - Transition planning and preparedness is a function to be delivered by the agency. The agency will commence operations with a service design and foundation capabilities to deliver this function with priority on at-risk ADF members.
 - DVA to fund a program to support veterans' wellbeing during transition to civilian life (**Recommendation 81**).
 - The agency will deliver a coordinated, whole-of-system approach to supporting veterans and families, integrating services, improving access, and ensuring continuity of care across the transition lifecycle.

The RCIC noted the updates for **Recommendations 80, 81 and 87**, noting the comprehensive project plan for **Recommendation 87**.

The RCIC requested Project Plans be completed for **Recommendations 80** and **Recommendation 81**.

Recommendation 89: establish a national peak body for ex-service organisations

The RCIC noted the update on activities that are planned and underway for **Recommendations 89**, including:

- Implementation of **Recommendation 89** requires veteran and family support organisations, with support from DVA, to co-design and agree on the role, functions, membership, governance and funding model for the peak body.
- The work captured through this process will continue to shape options for how best to implement **Recommendation 89** and ensure strong outcomes for Australian veterans and families of veterans.

The RCIC noted the updated provided and **ENDORSED** the project plan for **Recommendation 89**

Recommendation 90(b): extend non-liability health care for mental health conditions to all reserve personnel

Recommendation 96: ongoing funding for Provisional Access to Medical Treatment (PAMT)

Recommendation 97: consider extending the Veteran Payment to more veterans with physical health conditions

- The RCIC noted the update provided for **Recommendations 90(b), 96, and 97** as a cohort as they are all interrelated in that the specific programs they seek to address are largely focused on improving access to treatment and compensation to support veterans during the claims process.

The RCIC **NOTED** the updates on **Recommendations 90(b), Recommendations 96 and Recommendation 97**.

The RCIC **ENDORSED** the Project Plan for **Recommendation 90(b)** and requested further updates be provided for **Recommendation 96 and Recommendation 97**.

Any other business

The RCIC noted and **ENDORSED** minor updates to project plans for the following recommendations:

- **Recommendation 75:** conduct an independent review of Open Arms and publish the report
- **Recommendation 101:** provide Department of Veterans' Affairs clients with greater choice and autonomy

The next meeting of the RCIC is scheduled for 21 July 2026.