



Royal Commission Implementation Committee

Meeting Overview

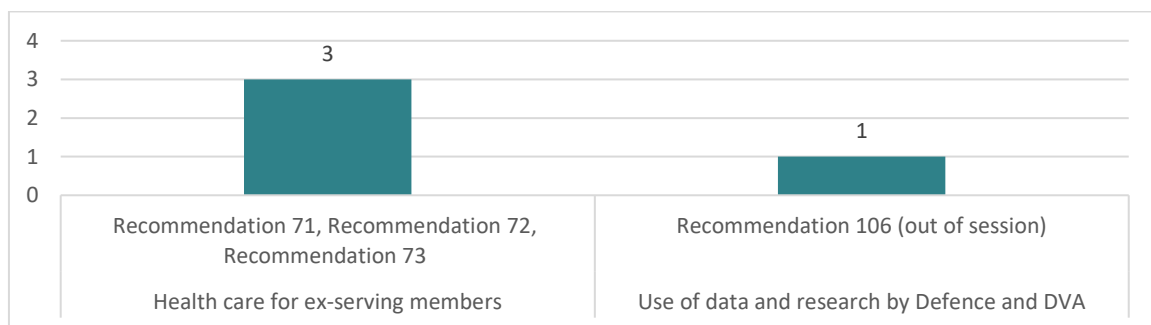
2 September 2025

The Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Royal Commission Implementation Committee (RCIC) met on 2 September 2025 to discuss activities under way to support the delivery of DVA led or joint-led Recommendations.

Overview of the RCIC Forward Work Plan

RCIC members discussed the Forward Work Plan and agreed to minor amendments to better align with evolving priorities. DVA and Defence agreed to work collaboratively to develop a consistent approach, to be considered by each board over the coming months.

Recommendations for discussion by theme



Reporting

The First Assistant Secretary, Royal Commission Implementation Division, DVA, and the Head of the Royal Commission Implementation Taskforce, Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C), provided an update to RCIC members, supporting continued alignment across agencies.

Veterans' Ministerial Council Priorities

The RCIC noted recent engagement between the Commonwealth and states and territories through the Commonwealth, States and Territories Committee (CTSC), supporting coordinated involvement in implementing the Government's response to Royal Commission recommendations.

Wellbeing Agency and Ex Service Organisation (ESO) Peak Body co-design update

The RCIC noted an update on the co-design of the new agency focused on veteran wellbeing and a national peak body for ESOs, noting ongoing progress across this work.

Update from Defence

The RCIC noted the update from the Chief of Personnel, Department of Defence and Deputy Secretary, Defence People, on work underway, supporting continued alignment and collaboration between Defence and DVA.

Update on recommendations

The following recommendations were considered and discussed, with updates provided on progress to date and agreed next steps:

Recommendation 62: establish a research translation centre for defence and veteran health care

- The RCIC reviewed the project plan for Recommendation 62, developed in close consultation with Defence, and identified opportunities to strengthen translation of research evidence into policy and practice.
- The RCIC requested an updated project plan that includes stronger short-term deliverables and milestones to support the timely translation of evidence into policy.

Recommendation 71: increase the Department of Veterans' Affairs fee schedule to align with that of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Recommendation 72: expand and strengthen healthcare services for veterans

Recommendation 73: improve military cultural competency in health professions working with veterans

- Recommendations 71, 72 and 73 collectively seek to improve veterans' access to treatment under DVA arrangements by increasing fees, broadening service offerings and supporting workforce development.
- The RCIC considered potential reforms to DVA health arrangements that could improve system efficiency, support provider participation and enhance access to care for veterans.

The RCIC **ENDORSED** the project plans for Recommendations 71, 72 and 73.

Any other business

Recommendation 106 Establish a suicide database of serving and ex-serving members

- Recommendation 106 proposes Defence establish a fit for-purpose Defence data system that captures data points relevant to understanding the factors that surround deaths by suicide.
- DVA is committed to supporting the successful implementation of establishing a suicide database of serving and ex-serving members that is cohesive across both Departments.
- There are a number of opportunities presented by Recommendation 106, that will benefit work already underway.

The RCIC considered an out-of-session request regarding Recommendation 106 and **ENDORSED** the project plan.

The next meeting of the RCIC is scheduled for 24 September 2025.