

DEFENCE DVA EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY – 30 June 2016

The fourth Defence DVA Executive Committee meeting was held on 30 June 2016 in the Defence offices, Russell, ACT.

Attending as members:

Mr Brendan Sargeant (Chair)	Associate Secretary, Department of Defence
Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin AC	CDF
Mr Simon Lewis PSM (Co-chair)	Secretary, Department of Veterans' Affairs
Ms Liz Cosson AM CSC	Chief Operating Officer, Department of Veterans' Affairs
Ms Rebecca Skinner	Deputy Secretary, Defence People Group

Also in attendance from DVA:

Mr Craig Orme AM CSC DSC	Deputy President Repatriation Commission
Dr Ian Gardner	Principal Medical Advisor
Mr Mark Harrigan	A/g First Assistant Secretary Veteran Centric Reform Taskforce
Mr Alex Gerrick	Assistant Secretary Business Reform and Defence Relations
Mr Neil Bayles OAM	Assistant Secretary Rehabilitation, Case Escalation and MRCA Review

Also in attendance from Defence:

Rear Admiral Brett Wolski AM	Head People Capability
Air Commodore Steve Martin AM	Joint Program Manager, Support for Wounded, Injured or Ill Program
Commodore Paul Kinghorne	Support for Wounded, Injured or Ill Program

Apologies from:

Mr Dennis Richardson AO	Secretary, Department of Defence
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Agenda Item 1 – Opening Remarks and Introductions

Mr Sargeant welcomed members and attendees.

The record of the previous meeting was accepted. There were no Action Items from the previous meeting.

Agenda Item 2 – Joint Response in relation to Fuel Exposure Workers

The Committee members discussed actions underway in relation to fuel exposed workers; in particular, the DVA initiated case file review currently under way. Mr Lewis noted that the review, now underway, was intended to review up to 40 case files; however, to date only 17

cases had been identified for inclusion. Mr Lewis had written to key Ex-Service Organisations seeking assistance to identify cases for inclusion in the review but no additional cases have so far been identified. ACM Binskin agreed to write to two regular correspondents on the fuel exposure issue to seek their assistance in finding additional cases.

ACTION ITEM 16/1: ACM Binskin to write to two regular correspondents on the fuel exposure issue to seek their assistance in identifying addition cases for inclusion in the Case File Review of fuel exposure workers.

Agenda Item 3 – DVA Transformation

Ms Cosson outlined DVA's Transformation agenda.

The Transformation Program is about delivering a fundamental change in the way DVA does business and is premised on moving to a Veteran Centric model. DVA is partnering with the Department of Human Services (DHS), regarding service outlets, developing online services with DHS, and partnering with the Department of Health for public hospitals and communications. Digital Transformation was also underway. The Early Engagement Model (EEM) and improved transition arrangements will be key aspects of the Veteran-Centric Reform model.

A second business case for Veteran-Centric Reform would be co-designed with relevant stakeholders, including Defence, to establish IT needs and address heritage systems. Mr Lewis invited Defence to nominate an ADF member to be part of the Taskforce, to help provide a single cross-agency experience.

ACM Binskin referred to Defence's work on health and personnel records. Ms Skinner noted that Defence had used co-design and developed experience in media and communications. Defence had moved to a customer service focus that involved assisting clients with problems and changed the manner in which the Department engaged with Defence personnel.

ACTION ITEM 16/2: Defence to second an ADF member to DVA's Transformation Taskforce.

Agenda Item 4 – Defence / DVA Memorandum of Understanding

The members agreed the revised Memorandum of Understanding between Defence and DVA for the Cooperative Delivery of Care and Support. The signing of the document was completed after the meeting.