

## **Summary of Meeting – 20 November 2019**

The 50<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Defence DVA Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held in Canberra on 20 November 2019. The following matters were discussed at the meeting.

### **Employment and Transition**

The Committee received an update on the Prime Minister's Veterans' Employment Awards, which received a record 129 nominations over eight categories. The Committee also received an update on the ongoing enhancements to ADF transition support with a focus on civilian employment assistance.

### **Policy, Programme and Initiatives**

The Committee was informed of progress on a number of initiatives to improve services for transitioning members. This included the enhanced delivery of DVA services on ADF bases with the phased delivery of the program. The Committee noted enhancements to the program following commencement at Campbell Barracks (WA) on 1 July 2019, and the capability to refine and adjust the model in line with the staged rollout.

### **Reports Back**

The Committee was provided with an update on a range of other issues, including the recent introduction of the Australian Defence Veterans' Covenant, including Veteran Card, Lapel Pin and Oath, to recognise and thank veterans for their service.

The Committee noted progress on the Veteran Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the whole-of government approach to suicide prevention. The Committee also noted DVA's Priority Investment Approach, in which data modelling is being used to enhance program/policy design and development.

An update was also provided on the Defence/DVA Electronic Information Exchange, a project to enable the electronic sharing of data between the Department of Defence and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

### **Other Business**

Members noted the ongoing collaboration between Defence and DVA across a range of initiatives and the tangible outcomes that this is having for veterans and their families.