Summary of Meeting – 14 July 2022

The 61st meeting of the Department of Defence/Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held via GovTEAMS on Thursday 14 July 2022. The following Policy, Program and Initiatives were discussed at the meeting.

Strategy

The Committee was provided with a verbal update on the Transition Taskforce with the Taskforce having completed its work and the Report ready for sign off and formal closure. The Transition Taskforce was established in 2016 to facilitate improved transition outcomes for ADF members and their families, and to ensure that current and future veterans and their families have the support that they need to transition effectively.

The Committee was also provided with a progress overview of the Joint Transition Authority, with the Veterans' Transition Strategy nearing its final stage before implementation.

The Committee discussed progress with the development of the Veterans and Defence Family Strategy and noted that a Joint Working Group will be established to develop the Strategy.

An update on the Data Sharing and Analytics Solution (DSAS) project highlighted the DSAS Road Map for expected delivery in 2023. A Working Group will be established to develop a paper on privacy and consent issues.

Governance

The Committee was updated on the implementation of the Defence-DVA Electronic Information Exchange (DDEIE) and Request Management System (RMS) Project. The Project went live on 23 May 2022 and is delivering successful results in terms of the project's responsiveness, with 8,000 requests having already been satisfied.

Performance

The Committee discussed the election commitment to provide a further ten new Veteran and Family Hubs across Australia. This would bring the total number of Hubs to 16, with six already providing positive engagement for members and stakeholders.

Other Business

The Committee noted the expected renewal of the DVA and Defence Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Research Agenda in December 2022.

The Chair noted that it has been a very busy year, with the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide and a change of Government; and thanked everyone for their work to date. A thank you was also extended to former Committee member AIRCDRE Steve Martin who retired on 1 June 2022 after 46 years' RAAF Service.

The next DLSC meeting has been scheduled for 16 September 2022.