

Department of Defence / Department of Veterans' Affairs
Links Steering Committee

Summary of Meeting – 29 August 2024

The 68th meeting of the Department of Defence/Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Links Steering Committee (DLSC) was held on Thursday 29 August 2024. The following Policy, Programs and Initiatives were discussed at the meeting.

Strategy

Steering Committee members were provided with an update on the progress of the Defence and Veteran Family Wellbeing Strategy. DVA and Defence have also progressed work with the Australian Institute of Family Studies, who have been engaged to support the development of the monitoring and evaluation framework for the strategy and action plan. This includes work on an outcome's framework, indicators to measure the outcomes in a clear and meaningful way, and reporting.

Defence and DVA are working together to finalise a new joint Defence and Veteran Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Working in concert to develop the Strategy will enable Defence and DVA to link department specific approaches to meeting the mental health and wellbeing needs of serving members and veterans along a lifetime continuum – during recruitment, service, employment, deployment, transition, and post-Defence life.

Performance

The Committee was provided with an update on the Defence and DVA Data Sharing and Analytics Solution Consent Campaign, the Veteran Electronic Information Exchange Data Management Agreement, metrics across the transition support continuum, and the underpinning Schedules to the Defence DVA Memorandum of Understanding.

The committee were informed on the progress of a Scoping Project underway that investigates the feasibility and design requirements for establishing an enduring longitudinal study that measures the health and wellbeing of ADF members through their service and transition to civilian life.

Other Business

The Joint Transition Authority (JTA) provided a synopsis of the activities undertaken over the past 12 months, and projected activities over the coming months which are in support of the Veteran Transition Strategy.

The Committee received a written information update on the Transition Medical Assessment Pilot Project, as well as a mapping of claims support programs.

The approach to market for the 'Establishment and operation of a Veteran and Family – Learning and Innovation Network of Knowledge (VF-LINK) was opened on 29 June 2024. Further information can be found on AusTender.