

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: RE: Honours and Awards Tribunal: The Report of the Inquiry into recognition for members and families of members of the ADF who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Tuesday, 18 January 2022 9:00:31 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks for providing the report. Can I confirm with you that Defence is writing the submission to their Minister recommending that he write to the PM on this matter and PMC don't have to write a submission? Also from reading the report Defence is going to administer the new medals including the Memorial Star and the Gratitude Star which will be issued under the Authority of the Governor General.

What will be our role in setting up these new medals?

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | Adviser, Honours and Symbols

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@pmc.gov.au](mailto:s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au) | w. pmc.gov.au

Ngunnawal Country, One National Circuit Barton ACT 2600 | PO Box 6500 CANBERRA ACT 2600



The Department acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Elders and Traditional Custodians of Country, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) <s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 17 January 2022 7:33 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au
Subject: FW: Honours and Awards Tribunal: The Report of the Inquiry into recognition for members and families of members of the ADF who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Noting that your stream/team is nominally responsible for both Defence and regulations this report is most appropriate for you.

Rush and I spoke with Defence on Friday evening and advised that the PM should be consulted prior to the Government's response being finalised. There will likely be budget and legislative impacts.

Please, also for file.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: Nockels, David MR <s 22(1)(a)(ii)@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 14 January 2022 4:31 PM
To: Rush, Peter <Peter.Rush@pmc.gov.au>; s 22(1)(a)(ii) <s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au>
Cc: s 22(1)(a)(ii)@defence.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)@defence.gov.au; s 22(1)(a)(ii)@defence.gov.au
Subject: Honours and Awards Tribunal: The Report of the Inquiry into recognition for members and families of members of the ADF who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Peter/ s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Thanks for your time this afternoon and advice.

Please see attached the report.

We'll make sure in our MinSub that we recommend to the Minister he write to the PM on this matter.

Regards,

David Nockels

Acting Deputy Secretary

Defence People Group

Department of Defence

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | PO Box 7927 | Canberra BC | ACT 2610

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Cc: Reid, John; s 22(1)(a)(ii); Rush, Peter
Subject: Report of the Inquiry into recognition for Defence members and families who are killed in service [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]
Date: Wednesday, 19 January 2022 6:51:25 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)
[Inquiry report final version.pdf](#)
[Covering letter.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL: Sensitive

Dear s 22(1)(a)(ii)

The attached Report from the Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal into recognition for members and families of members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service has been provided to the Department ahead of it being published on 25 January.

It was sent to Minister Gee on 17 December.

Peter Rush and I met with Defence last Friday and advised that Minister Gee should write to the PM to seek approval of a government position on the recommendations, which they have undertaken to do.

The Report provides three recommendations:

Recommendation 1

A) New forms of recognition be developed within the Australian honours system. These would be a clasp on a member's medal if they die in service or related to service, and/or a Clasp on a member's medal if they are injured or wounded in service. Both clasps would be added to an existing medal.

B) Symbolic recognition outside the Australian honours system specifically for families when a member either dies or is wounded or injured, in or as a result of their service.

Recommendation 2

The items of recognition be accompanied by a scroll, issued under the authority of the Governor-General, provided to members or their families, as applicable.

Recommendation 3

Recognition be available retrospectively, from 2 September 1945.

PM&C provided input into the Tribunal's deliberations; our chief concern was that establishing an honour for death or injury as the primary criterion was without precedent in the Australian honours system and would not satisfy the values and principles integral to the Australian honours system. The Tribunal's recommendation of the use of a clasp, rather than a new award, for the death or injury of a member, is an acceptable compromise balancing the integrity of the Australian honours system and the interest in recognising the sacrifice of Defence members. If the Government chooses to accept the recommendations PM&C will work with Defence to make the regulatory amendments required, which would require approval by Her Majesty The Queen.

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | A/g Assistant Secretary, Parliamentary and Government Branch
 Government Division | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

s 22(1)(a)(ii) | e. s 22(1)(a)(ii) pmc.gov.au | w. pmc.gov.au

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s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Australian Government

Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

DHAAT/OUT/2021/550

The Hon Andrew Gee MP

Minister for Defence Personnel
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I refer to our telephone conference of 23 September 2021 during which I briefed you on the then position concerning the *Inquiry into recognition for members and families of members of the Australian Defence Force who are injured, wounded or killed in or as a result of service*, which the Tribunal was directed to undertake by your predecessor.

At that time I outlined the essence of the conclusions which the Tribunal had reached and advised that we were then in the process of seeking to ascertain the likely cost of our proposals and preparing the text for printing in a form suitable for public presentation.

I am pleased to enclose with this letter the final text of the Tribunal's report. The substance of the conclusions and the proposals have not changed since our earlier discussion. The text in relation to costing has been prepared since that time and, as you will see, it proposes an initial budget that would be subject to periodic review because, despite extensive investigation, historical data is simply not available to enable a more definitive costing to be derived.

Under the Tribunal's Procedural Rules made under the *Defence Act 1903*, the Tribunal is to publish an inquiry report on its website within 20 working days after the day it is given to the Minister, meaning it must be published by 25 January 2022. While the report is still being professionally typeset for publication, the text will be unchanged.

Your predecessor directed the Tribunal to consult widely in conducting its inquiry. We have not only done this but we have done it in a very proactive way. As a result, I believe we have a strong sense of the reactions that the report might generate both within the bureaucracy and more broadly within the community. Should you wish, I would be more than happy to meet with you or your staff at any time to discuss that matter or any other aspect of the report.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Stephen Skehill

Chair
Defence Honours and Awards Appeals Tribunal

17 December 2021

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