

Terms of Reference for Royal Commission on Veterans Suicide

The Partners of Veterans Association of Australia. (P.V.A)

The National Board of P.V.A. would like the Royal Commission to include the following areas in the Terms of Reference on Veterans Suicide.

1. Investigate the current effectiveness and consistency of the transition process across the ADF and in particular the involvement of Spouse/Partners or close support persons.
2. The manner in which a member is medically transitioned out of the ADF including the support services provided during and post exit.
3. Examine the Spouse/Partner involvement in recruitment, deployment and transition across the ADF.
4. The Support for single ADF members and those without spouse/partner or close family.
5. The capability of the Case Management System to capture the holistic mental and physical status of a current and ex-service member and their family support network in preventing suicide.
6. The use of Open Arms in the mitigation of suicidal ideations and reduction.
7. All communication processes from DVA including the capability of DVA to process all claims correctly and within a shortened timeframe.
8. The involvement of Defence Community Organisation (DCO) in current and ex-service member's suicide, particularly providing support to spouses/partners and family members.
9. The impact of poor pharmaceutical interventions and support on suicide rates amongst veterans and their families.
10. Drill down on the quality and availability of data collection for the families, particularly any children and grandchildren, affected by a defence and veteran death by suicide.
11. Consider the effect of the changes in policies of the ADF that use to foster camaraderie for the veteran and families. EG: are no longer housed on base.