

## MEDIA RELEASE

12 August 2022

### RE: INTERIM REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO DEFENCE AND VETERAN SUICIDE

An interim report of the Royal Commission into Defence and Veteran Suicide has been released which includes some urgent recommendations as well as preliminary observations and will now be considered by the Government.

There are thirteen recommendations; mostly relating to Veteran Compensation & Rehabilitation Legislation, improving claims processing at Department of Veterans Affairs and Improving access to information.

Of the 13 recommendations made, Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS) look forward to seeing what steps are taken by the Federal Government to implement these recommendations so that currently serving and ex-serving members receive better, and quicker, outcomes when dealing with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

DCLS looks forward to the Royal Commission coming to Darwin to hear first-hand of the lived experience of the Top End defence and veteran community.

DCLS have a free Veterans' Legal Service at Mates4Mates in Palmerston every Thursday from 10am available to defence members, ex-serving members and their families.

The service is available for appointments and walk-in's are welcome.

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