



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
Defence Sub Committee

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 18 March 2013

Chair: Senator Mark Furner
Deputy: Dr Dennis Jensen MP

Inquiry into care of Australian Defence Force personnel wounded and injured on operations

Public Hearing on Tuesday 19 March

The Department of Veteran's Affairs (DVA) and the Department of Defence will be asked to discuss some of the issues that have been raised regarding Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel wounded and injured on operations at a public hearing of the parliamentary inquiry into their care.

Defence Sub-Committee chair Senator Mark Furner said the committee had received both positive and negative evidence regarding the roles of DVA and Defence in the recovery of ADF members from wounds and injuries sustained on operations.

"Noting that Defence and DVA have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Cooperative Delivery of Care and Support to Eligible Persons, it remains imperative that every effort is made to ensure the best possible support for our soldiers, sailors and airmen or women who are suffering from injuries, wounds or illness as a result of their service on operations" Senator Furner said.

"As the principle government departments charged with supporting our wounded and injured service personnel while they remain in uniform and beyond, Defence and DVA are key to ensuring the best possible recovery outcome for our people. The committee is interested in ensuring that issues raised as part of the inquiry are being addressed but also that positive developments in veteran support receive the credit they deserve."

Program

Committee Room 1R1, Parliament House, Canberra

1740 – 1805 Department of Veterans' Affairs

1805 – 1830 Department of Defence

The public hearing will be audio webcast live

on: http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament

Terms of reference for the inquiry and submissions can be found

at: www.aph.gov.au/jfadt

For media inquiries, contact the Sub-Committee Chairman, Senator Mark Furner on 02 6277 3423 or 07 3881 3710.

For all other inquiries, contact the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade secretariat by phone on (02) 6277 2313, via email at jscfadt@aph.gov.au or visit the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/jfadt.