



In late 2010 the National Presidents of the Defence Force Welfare Association; the Naval Association of Australia; the Royal Australian Regiment Corporation; the Australian Special Air Services Association; and the RAAF Association signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the *Alliance of Defence Service Organisations*.

The objective of the Alliance is to provide a stronger voice on issues impacting the conditions and wellbeing of currently serving and former members of the Australian Defence Force. Its major functions are to:

- improve communication, cooperation and collaboration between member organisations;
- gain mutual advantage from the differing of expertise of each member organisation;
- ensure for each issue being pursued, the appropriate organisation is identified as the “lead organisation” for coordination of the actions undertaken by the Alliance; and
- help spread the workload and ensure the resources of the Alliance members are used to produce the most effective result.

The Alliance does not preclude individual organisations pursuing individual matters on their own, especially when their respective Constitutions require them to do so. Rather, the Alliance will present a united voice on those major issues affecting their constituents more broadly than individual ESO-specific matters.

At a joint meeting in November 2010, the Alliance agreed that issues the Alliance could pursue may include:

- Indexation of military superannuation from the CPI to an equitable index.
- The use of up-to-date actuarial tables for calculating life expectancy of members.
- Governance of Military Superannuation Schemes.
- Release of Service Records of military personnel after 30 years – soon to be reduced 20 years.
- DVA funding for ex-service associations’ activities and commemorations.
- Unique nature of military service
- Veterans’ allowances and benefits
- Home Ownership Scheme
- Reserve hours

The initial point of contact for the Alliance is c/- the National Office of the DFWA, email alliance@dfwa.org.au