



**COPI**

## **Office of the Hon Darren Chester MP**

Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Minister for Defence Personnel

Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Centenary of ANZAC

MC18-002874

Mr Trevor Benneworth  
24 Whittaker Street  
WEST CHERMSIDE QLD 4032

Dear Mr Benneworth

Thank you for meeting with this office on 21 September 2018 to bring your proposal for the introduction of an Australian Defence Force (ADF) proof of service card to the attention of the Minister for Defence Personnel, the Hon Darren Chester MP. The Minister has asked me to write to you on his behalf to express his support for this proposal.

To coincide with the Centenary of the Armistice, the Minister is working with the ex-service community and his State and Territory colleagues to establish a legacy of the Anzac Centenary, including the creation of an Australian Veterans' Covenant. The Covenant will promote active living, employment opportunities and stronger connection and support for veterans and their families in their local communities.

A range of initiatives are under consideration to support the Covenant, including introduction of a card to be made available to ex-serving ADF members as a way for the public to recognise veterans and acknowledge their service to our nation.

Your proposal for introduction of a proof of service card is well-aligned with our current thinking, and we discussed a range of implementation considerations such as eligibility, card issue and harmonisation of state-based concession benefits. The Minister intends to raise this matter with his state counterparts at the Veterans Ministers' Round Table that will be held on 27 October 2018.

Thank you once again for bringing this proposal to the Minister's attention.

Yours sincerely

**Robert Curtin**

**Chief of Staff**

**22 OCT 2018**