



**ADSO** ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

17 December 2014

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **GOVERNMENT'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT TO ADF FAMILIES - HIGHER RENTS & CHARGES**

Only weeks after providing a paltry 1.5% pay increase to members of the ADF, the Government is now imposing charges for some married quarter rents well above the 1.5% .....exactly what the Defence Force Welfare Association feared would occur. As a Christmas present to the ADF, Defence has imposed married quarter rent increases up to 4.2% to take effect from early 2015, in addition charges imposed on members living in barracks will increase by up to 2.5% for lower standards.

"This is a total betrayal by the Government to members of the ADF and their families", says National President David Jamison. "Not only do they grudgingly provide a pay increase that is less than CPI and therefore an effective pay cut, but they then impose charges on ADF members and their families that are higher than the 1.5%. We also contend that there is a lack of transparency in the way Defence calculates its charges imposed on ADF members which needs to be addressed".

"What makes it worse is that for some ADF families, the Defence increase is significantly more than the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) increase charged to Defence." How can that be justified?" David asks.

"I ask the Minister to immediately review the proposed increases to ensure any Government imposed charges on members of the ADF are fair and raised by no more than the recent 1.5% pay rise, and for rent increases to be no more than the DHA percentage increase. It's the very least they should do" he concluded.

#### *Contacts*

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The Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA), Naval Association of Australia (NAA), RAAF Association (RAAFA), Royal Australian Regiment Corporation (RAR), Australian Special Air Service Association (ASASA), Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Veterans Association (APPVA), Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA), Australian Federation of Totally and Permanently Incapacitated Ex-Service Men and Women and Partners of Veterans Association of Australia.