



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Howard Wren
Acting Chief Officer
ACT Ambulance Service
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Wren

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@pmc.gov.au](mailto:s 22(1)(a)(ii)@pmc.gov.au)).

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



ACT
Government



Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Andrew Fisher Building
One National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600

via email: **s 22(1)(a)(ii)** @pmc.gov.au

Dear Mr *Peter* Rush

Thank you for your letter dated 7 September 2017 in relation to proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for the National Medal.

ACT Emergency Services Agency, comprising of ACT Fire & Rescue, ACT Ambulance Service, ACT Rural Fire Service and the ACT State Emergency Service, support the proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this possible change.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dominic Lane
Commissioner
ACT Emergency Services Agency

13 October 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Mark Brown
Chief Officer
ACT Fire and Rescue
GPO Box 158
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Brown

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

s 47E(c)

Australian Federal Police
GPO Box 401
CANBERRA ACT 2601

s 47E(c)

Dear

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOCOL

GPO Box 401 Canberra City ACT 2601
Em **s 47E(c)** ne@afp.gov.au
www.afp.gov.au
ABN 17 864 931 143

1 November 2017

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

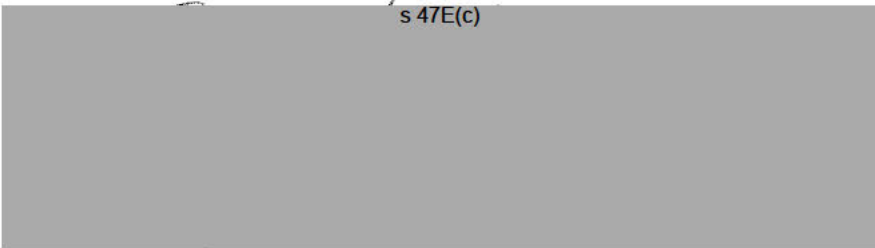

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your recent correspondence, where you sought the view of the Australian Federal Police on a proposal to extend the eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years' service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

The Australian Federal Police supports this proposal, particularly as the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal already have this provision in their respective eligibility criteria.

Yours sincerely

s 47E(c)

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Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Dominic Morgan ASM
Chief Executive Officer
NSW Ambulance
Locked Bag 105
ROZELLE NSW 2039

Dear Mr Morgan

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



NSW Ambulance

excellence in care

TRIM File: 99/518
Document: D17/17999
Your ref: MS16-002066

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

I am writing to you in response to your letter dated 7 September 2017 regarding proposed changes to the eligibility requirements for the National Medal.

NSW Ambulance staff and volunteers proudly assist the community during times of emergency and natural disaster, and at times risk their lives and safety to protect or assist the community. NSW Ambulance supports the proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for the National Medal to bring it in line with the Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Medal and National Emergency Medal. Extending the eligibility of the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the discretion of the Chief Officer, would have completed 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact s 22(1)(a)(ii) Manager Events & Stakeholder Engagement on s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email: s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:s 22(1)(a)(ii)@health.nsw.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dominic Morgan ASM
Commissioner

2019/17



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Paul Baxter
Fire and Rescue New South Wales
Locked Bag 12
GREENACRE NSW 2190

Dear Commissioner Baxter

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Kushn
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017

Unclassified

**Fire &
Rescue NSW**

File Ref. No: FRN11/2
TRIM Ref. No: CC17/62

21 August 2017

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your correspondence dated 7 September 2017 seeking my view on the possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The recognition of long and diligent service of members from specific government and voluntary organisations through the awarding of the National Medal is something which appropriately acknowledges the efforts of those who risk their lives or safety in their role of protecting the community.

Whilst in principle I support the inclusion of discretion being given to Chief Officers to waive existing criteria in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty, I believe that this should only be used in exceptional circumstances being mindful of the potential implications this could have.

The emerging shift in staff culture from "a job for life" to one that is influenced by a change in generational expectations of employees within government and volunteer agencies will see members become more agile and experience multiple career changes throughout their life. This introduces a level of uncertainty when trying to forecast individual's eligibility under the proposed new criteria.

In the event of a Chief Officer's decision to not recommend the waiving of service criteria, could inadvertently lead to a detrimental focus on the decision as well as leading to unnecessary individual comparative analysis between those who were successful and those who were not. This could detract from the bereavement or convalescence and rehabilitation of an individual, thereby devaluing the current sentiment of the awarding of the National Medal.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Paul Baxter
Commissioner

Fire & Rescue NSW
Headquarters

ABN 12 593 473 110
Locked Bag 12,
Greenacre NSW 2190

www.fire.nsw.gov.au
T (02) 9265 2999



Unclassified



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons
NSW Rural Fire Service
Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Dear Commissioner Fitzsimmons

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE



Mr P Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your reference: MS 16-002066
Our reference: DOC 17/94845

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 2017 regarding the possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal. I appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on this proposal.

The NSW Rural Fire Service acknowledges that the National Medal is a worthy award which recognises the long and diligent service of our members and their contributions in the protection of our community in times of emergency or natural disaster.

Accordingly, I fully support extending the eligibility of the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact s 22(1)(a)(ii) at s 22(1)(a)(ii) [@rfs.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rfs.nsw.gov.au) or by phone on s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM
Commissioner

20-9-17

Postal address
NSW Rural Fire Service
Locked Bag 17
GRANVILLE NSW 2142

Street address
NSW Rural Fire Service
15 Carter Street
LIDCOMBE NSW 2141

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Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Michael Fuller
NSW Police Force
Sydney Police Centre
151-241 Goulburn Street
SURRY HILLS NSW 2009

Dear Commissioner Fuller

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017

30 OCT 2017

**NSW Police Force****OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER**

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Your ref: MS16-002066
Our ref: D/2017/760399

Dear Mr Rush,

I refer to your letter of 13 September 2017 concerning possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal. I respond on behalf of both the NSW Police Force and the NSW Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

I note that the Government is considering a proposal to extend the criteria to include personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years service if not for their death, injury, or disability in the line of duty.

Presuming the extended criteria would capture a large, historical cohort of eligible officers, it cannot be supported. The proposal would be unmanageable for the NSW Police Force because of the thousands of potential new recipients, the resources required to process the new criteria, and the complex information gathering required.

The proposal would also duplicate the National Police Service Medal. This medal is generally awarded for at least 15 years of ethical and diligent service on or after 30 October 2008, and may be awarded to an officer for less than 15 years service if they were unable to continue serving due to death, injury, or disability resulting from their service.

Approximately 2,800 officers have been processed for the National Police Service Medal in NSW to date. This process has taken significant time and demanded considerable police resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

M J Fuller APM
Commissioner of Police

20 OCT 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Reece Kershaw
Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services
PO Box 39764
WINNELLIE NT 0821

Dear Commissioner Kershaw

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

: Your Ref

HQ2017/1359: Our Ref

Mr Peter Rush
 Attorney-General First Assistant Secretary
 Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
 Government Division
 PO Box 6500
 CANBERRA ACT 2600

Via email: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your letter dated 7 September 2017, advising that the Australian Government are considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal (NM) to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Police Commissioner, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

There are a number of issues which should be raised at the national level to ensure communication from each jurisdiction is discussed and raised collectively prior to changing the criteria:

- The NM unlike the National Police Service Medal, has a subsequent Clasp for every additional 10 years of ethical and diligent service. In this instance it must be considered how many additional Clasps can be awarded to those who fall into the category of having died or were disabled in the line of duty.
- The Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services have members who potentially fall under the category of 'could/would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for injury or disability in the line of duty'. The lack of personnel record keeping will be problematic for workplace injury or disability determination for historical cases; therefore reliant solely on the applicant's statement of claims.

- In some cases the difficulty in determining whether a member would have completed 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability will be problematic. Examples could include; a 20 year old joined the police force and was killed, injured or disabled on duty after just six months of service. Is six months a reasonable amount of time served to receive the NM? A 50 year old joins the police force and was killed, injured or disabled after 11 years of service. Was the intention of the 50 year old to work to at least 65?

Unlike the NPSM, the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and the National Emergency Medal which already provides this discretion, the National Medal would retain a uniqueness; being the importance of completing the prescribed tenure.

Should you have any further enquiries regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Assistant Director s 22(1)(a)(ii) ; Secretariat and Protocol, on telephone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or via email s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Reece P Kershaw APM
Commissioner of Police

27 November 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Russell Bowles ASM
Queensland Ambulance Service
GPO Box 1425
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Commissioner Bowles

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

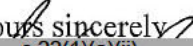
The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely 
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Ref: 17/01703
Mincor: 04640-2017

03 OCT 2017



Queensland
Government

Queensland
Ambulance Service

Department of
Health

27 SEP 2017

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your correspondence dated 7 September 2017, regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the awards of the National Medal.

As Commissioner of the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS), I acknowledge and support the importance of appropriately recognising our staff for long and diligent service.

Therefore, I support the proposal to extend eligibility for the awarding of the National Medal to personnel who would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

If you would like any further information, please contact s 22(1)(a)(ii) QAS Honours and Awards Secretariat, Executive Services, Office of the Commissioner on telephone s 22(1)(a)(ii), who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Russell Bowles ASM
Commissioner

Office of the Commissioner
Emergency Services Complex
Level 3 Block A
Cnr Park and Kedron Park Roads Kedron
GPO Box 1425 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3635 3271
Facsimile +61 7 3247 8267
Website www.ambulance.qld.gov.au
ABN 89 519 542 578 18



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Katarina Carroll APM
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
GPO Box 1425
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Commissioner Carroll

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

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Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Ph: 3635 3079
Our Ref: 05707-2017



Office of the
Commissioner
**Queensland Fire and
Emergency Services**

22 SEP 2017

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

Thank you for your correspondence received on 14 September 2017, regarding a proposal to extend the eligibility for the award of the National Medal.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) greatly values the contribution of our paid and volunteer members. We are proud to access the Australian honours system in conjunction with our own suite of honours and awards to ensure appropriate recognition of service, especially where there is risk to their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in times of emergency or natural disaster.

Accordingly I fully support the proposed extension of the eligibility criteria for the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

The proposal will provide an essential opportunity to recognise the diligent service of members whose contribution is unduly ended. I am confident the QFES Honours and Awards Committee has the capacity to assess such circumstances on their merits, so as to not diminish the intent of the National Medal.

Should you require any further assistance, please contact s 22(1)(a)(ii), Acting Executive Manager, Human Capital Operations on telephone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @qfes.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Katarina Carroll APM
Commissioner

Emergency Services Complex
125 Kedron Park Road Kedron
GPO Box 1425 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone 13 QGOV
Facsimile +61 3247 4683
Website www.qfes.qld.gov.au
ABN 93 035 163 778



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Ian Stewart APM
Queensland Police Service
GPO Box 1440
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Commissioner Stewart

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Kush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Jason Killens
Chief Executive Officer
South Australia Ambulance Service
GPO Box 3
ABELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Killens

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Greg Nettleton
Chief Officer
South Australian Country Fire Service
PO Box 8
NARACOORTE SA 5271

Dear Mr Nettleton

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Gregory Crossman
Chief Officer
South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
GPO Box 98
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mr Crossman

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Grant Stevens
South Australia Police
GPO Box 1539
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Commissioner Stevens

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Neil Kirby
Chief Executive
Ambulance Tasmania
12 Brisbane Street
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Mr Kirby

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii) @ambulance.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 18 September 2017 3:53 PM
To: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Response to correspondence - Nation Medal
Importance: High

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

I refer to your recent correspondence dated 7 September 2017, reference MS16-002066.

The CE of Ambulance Tasmania, Mr Neil Kirby has advised he has no objection to the proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for the Nation Medal Award.

If you have any further enquiries please don't hesitate to contact me.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

for

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Executive Support Officer
 Office of the Chief Executive, Mr Neil Kirby ASM
 Ambulance Tasmania



12 Brisbane Street, HOBART TAS 7000

GPO Box 125, HOBART TAS 7001

P +61 3 6230 8554

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E s 22(1)(a)(ii) @ambulance.tas.gov.au

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Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Chris Arnol
Chief Officer
Tasmania Fire Service
GPO Box 1526
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Mr Arnol

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Darren Hine
Tasmania Police
GPO Box 308
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Commissioner Hine

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Associate Professor Tony Walker ASM
Chief Executive Officer
Ambulance Victoria
303 Gillies St North
WENDOUREE VIC 3355

Dear Associate Professor Walker

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely 
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Kush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



26 SEP 2017

20 September 2017

DOC/17/147729

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Dear Mr Rush

Re: Eligibility Criteria for the award of the National Medal

Thank you for your letter of 7 September 2017, and the opportunity to provide commentary with regards to the proposed changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

Ambulance Victoria is pleased to support the proposed amendment, and concur that the inclusion of discretion in the criteria is well considered, reasonable and appropriate.

Should this position be endorsed, we would be pleased to make the necessary amendments to our internal policies and processes to capture these changes.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to give consideration to this matter, and I look forward to confirmation if, and when, these changes are adopted.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Assoc Prof TONY WALKER ASM
Chief Executive Officer





Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Ms Frances Diver
Chief Executive Officer
Country Fire Authority Victoria
PO Box 701
MOUNT WAVERLEY VIC 3149

Dear Ms Diver

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

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I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii), Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017

Office of the CEO
Headquarters
8 Lakeside Drive, Burwood East Vic 3151
Phone: 9262 8842 Fax: 9262 8322
Ref: FD:bg
10/413-3 D17/40309



03 OCT 2017

27 September 2017

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mr Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
PO Box 6500
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

NATIONAL MEDAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Thank you for your letter dated 7 September 2017, in which you propose possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

CFA has considered your proposal to extend eligibility to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

On consideration of the proposal, CFA believes it would be difficult to confidently predict the extent of service of someone who does not meet the current service criterion. Should business rules be developed to specify how the proposed changes would be implemented for a consistent, objective approach, CFA would be willing to reconsider the position taken.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback. Should you have any queries, please contact CFA Honours and Awards via email cfa-awards@cfa.vic.gov.au or by phone on (03) 9262 8842.

Yours sincerely

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Frances Diver
Chief Executive Officer



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Jim Higgins
Chief Executive Officer
Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board
456 Albert Street
EAST MELBOURNE VIC 3002

Dear Mr Higgins

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division

7 September 2017



**Metropolitan Fire and
Emergency Services Board**
ABN 28 598 558 561

Office of the Chief Officer
456 Albert Street
East Melbourne
Victoria Australia 3002

Telephone: +61 3 9665 4269
Facsimile: +61 3 9665 4244
www.mfb.vic.gov.au

Tuesday 31 October 2017

Ref. 1269985

Mr Peter Rush
Acting First Assistant Secretary
Andrew Fisher Building
Government Division
1 National Circuit
Barton ACT 2600

Dear Mr Rush

RE: Eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal - Reference No: MS16-002066

In response to your letter, reference MS16-002066, dated 7 September 2017, thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

In relation to the possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal I would like to highlight the following:

- MFB appreciates the Australian Government's support in recognising those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community;
- MFB acknowledges that an awardee must have 15 years diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation; and
- That unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the 15 years of service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

MFB have reviewed the possible changes to the National Medal eligibility criteria and support the initiative put forward by Government including:

"Extend the eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty"

To assist the Chief Officer and MFB's Honours and Awards process in such circumstances, MFB request that common guidelines be developed to foster national consistency, including the definition of "death, injury or disability in the line of duty".

Once developed, this doctrine will assist all jurisdictions and their respective Chief Officers to consider nominations under 'Special Circumstances', thus fostering national consistency.

The revised criteria should also include: "at Chief Officer's discretion and endorsed by the CEO".

Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Greg Leach
Acting Chief Officer



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Chief Commissioner Graham Ashton AM
Victoria Police
PO Box 913
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Chief Commissioner Ashton

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Mr Frank Pasquale
Executive Director Corporate Services
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
PO Box P1174
PERTH WA 6844

Dear Mr Pasquale

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

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Yours sincerely
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

ANDREW FISHER BUILDING
ONE NATIONAL CIRCUIT
BARTON

Reference: MS16-002066

Commissioner Christopher John Dawson APM
Western Australia Police
81 Lakeside Drive
JOONDALUP WA 6027

Dear Commissioner Dawson

I am writing regarding possible changes to the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal.

The Australian Government strongly supports recognition of those who undertake hazardous service on behalf of the community. As you would be aware, the National Medal recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster. To be eligible, the awardee must have over 15 years' diligent service and be recommended by the Chief Officer of an eligible organisation.

Unlike other awards in the Australian honours system, in particular, the National Police Service Medal, Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and National Emergency Medal, there is no discretion in the eligibility criteria for the award of the National Medal to waive the requirement for 15 years' service in cases of death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

Accordingly, the Government is considering a proposal to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to personnel who, in the opinion of the relevant Chief Officer, would have completed at least 15 years of service if not for death, injury or disability in the line of duty.

I would appreciate receiving your views on this proposal by **Friday 22 September 2017**.

I have written in similar terms to all other Chief Officers of eligible organisations. Should you have any queries, the contact officer in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet is s 22(1)(a)(ii) Legal Policy Branch (phone s 22(1)(a)(ii) or email s 22(1)(a)(ii) @pmc.gov.au).

Yours sincerely,
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Peter Rush
A/g First Assistant Secretary
Government Division
7 September 2017

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

PM&C
Secretary
Ms Foster
Mr Reid
Mr Rush
Mr Martin

To: Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet

NATIONAL MEDAL: PROPOSAL TO AMEND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

PMO
Dr Kunkel

AMO
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Recommendation - that you:

1. Agree to the drafting of regulations that extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to:
 - a. members of eligible organisations who have died in the line duty, with retrospectivity applied to 14 February 1975; and
 - b. members of eligible organisations who, but for injury or disability sustained in the course of performing their duty, would have served a minimum of 15 years' service

Agreed / Not Agreed

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

BEN MORTON

Date:

1/7/19

Comments:

Key Points:

1. On 7 June 2017, the former Prime Minister, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull, agreed in-principle to extend eligibility for the award of the National Medal to members of eligible organisations who, in the opinion of their Chief Officer, would have met the requirement for 15 years' service if not for death, injury or disability sustained in the course of performing their duty (s 22(1)(a)(ii) refers).
2. Following this in-principle agreement, consultation with the Chief Officers of eligible organisations was undertaken. Comments were sought from 65 organisations and 43 responded. The responses were overwhelming in support of extending the eligibility criteria for death, injury or disability in the line of duty, however they raised a number of concerns in relation to injury and disability.
3. Specifically, the concerns focussed on applying retrospectivity to injury and disability, which may result in:
 - a. assessments not being feasible as historical records may no longer exist;
 - b. difficulty assessing probable length of service for former members not known to the current personnel; and
 - c. capturing a large, historical cohort creating a considerable administrative impact.

4. Another point of concern was establishing a nationally consistent definition of injury or disability. Nonetheless, many agencies supported Chief Officers being able to use their discretion in determining individual eligibility for those injured or disabled in the course of duty based on a prediction of a minimum length of service.
5. Based on this feedback, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) proposes that the matters be dealt with separately as follows:

Death

- a. The National Medal be awarded to those who die in the course of duty, premised on the positive assumption that those individuals would have served 15 years, noting the inability of these personnel to make their own representations about their intended service commitment.
- b. As a relatively uncommon occurrence, it is also regarded as administratively feasible to apply this provision retrospectively to 14 February 1975 when the Australian honours system (and the National Medal) commenced.
- c. Based on the existing National Medal Regulations 2011 (the regulations), this amendment would also apply to people who would have served 15 years plus one day as at 14 February 1975.
- d. These changes would bring the National Medal in line with other service medals, such as the National Police Service Medal, the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and the National Emergency Medal, the regulations of which facilitate decision-makers to determine awarding those medals in the event of death in the line of duty.

Injury or disability

- e. The National Medal is essentially a length of service award. To maintain the integrity of the medal any concession to the 15 year requirement should be rare and determined on an exception basis.
 - f. PM&C proposes the drafting instructions provide that the Secretary of PM&C, or delegate, be the decision maker in relation to injury or disability in the course of duty. A decision would only be made where there is a recommendation from the relevant Chief Officer. This approach aims to ensure a nationally consistent application of the award of the medal in these circumstances.
 - i. In making their recommendation Chief Officers would need to present a strong case addressing both the injury or disability and the prediction of service.
 - ii. For the supporting evidence to be assessed by PM&C, consent to the release of personal/medical information would need to be acquired by the Chief Officer from the individual seeking the award.
 - g. Retrospectivity is not proposed and any change would apply from the date of the amended regulations.
6. In usual circumstances, a recipient of the National Medal for 15 years' service can receive clasps to the Medal after 25 years' service and after each additional ten years' service. However, it is not proposed to extend eligibility to clasps under these proposed amendments. Clasps would not be available to those who die or acquire an injury or disability in the line of duty.

7. If you agree, PM&C will instruct the Office of Parliamentary Counsel to commence drafting the amendments. We will then seek the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP's, agreement to recommend the approval of the amendments to Her Majesty The Queen.

Background:

8. The National Medal is Australia's most awarded civilian honour. It recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster.
 - a. This includes government organisations such as ambulance, correctional, emergency, fire and police forces, and voluntary organisations such as lifesaving or search and rescue groups. Many, but not all, eligible groups are uniformed.

Peter Rush
Assistant Secretary
Parliamentary and Government Branch
27 June 2019

Policy Officer: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Phone no: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

PM&C
Secretary
Ms Foster
Mr Reid
Mr Martin

To: Prime Minister (for decision and signature)

cc: Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet

PMO
Dr Kunkel
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

NATIONAL MEDAL: AMENDMENT TO ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

AMO
s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Recommendations - that you:

2. Agree to the draft National Medal Amendment Regulations 2019 (Attachment A).

Agreed / Not Agreed

3. Sign two copies of the letter to Her Majesty The Queen (Attachment B), s 47E(d) recommending that Her Majesty approve the amendments to the National Medal regulations.

Signed / Not Signed

4. Sign the attached letter to the Governor-General asking him to present the matter to The Queen for Her consideration (Attachment D).

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Signed / Not Signed

SCOTT MORRISON

Date:

9.2.20

Comments:

Key Points:

1. On 1 July 2019, the Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Hon Ben Morton MP, agreed that eligibility for the award of the National Medal should be extended to members of eligible organisations who:
 - a. have died in the line of duty, retrospective to the commencement date of the National Medal; and
 - b. but for injury or disability sustained in the course of performing their duty, would have served a minimum of 15 years' service (MS19-001686 refers).
2. The proposed regulations at Attachment A amend the existing National Medal Regulations 2011 to give effect to these eligibility changes. The proposed regulations bring the National Medal into line with other service medals, such as the National Police Service Medal, the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal and the National Emergency Medal, the regulations of which facilitate awarding those medals in the event of death or injury/disability in the line of duty.
3. In relation to death in the line of duty, the proposed regulations reflect the positive assumption that the individual would have served 15 years, noting the inability of that person to make their own representation about their intended service commitment.

- a. As death in the line of duty is a relatively uncommon occurrence that can be readily substantiated, it is administratively feasible to apply this provision retrospectively to the date the Australian honours system (and the National Medal) commenced, i.e. 14 February 1975.
 - b. The proposed change would also apply to people who would have served 15 years plus one day as at 14 February 1975. This aligns with the service requirements of the existing National Medal Regulations 2011 (Attachment E).
 - c. The only cohort unaffected by the death in the line of duty change is Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel who may have died between 1975 and 1982. The Defence Long Service Medal came into effect in 1982 and made ADF personnel ineligible for the National Medal from that date. It would be inconsistent to allow the earlier group access to this provision when those who have died since 1982 are not.
4. In regards to injury or disability in the line of duty, the proposed regulations reflect the National Medal is essentially a length of service award and its integrity should be maintained. As such, any concession to the 15 year requirement should be rare and determined on an exception basis.
- d. To ensure a nationally consistent application of the award of the medal in these circumstances, the proposed regulations provide that the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) is the decision maker in relation to injury or disability in the course of duty. A decision could only be made where there was a recommendation from the relevant Chief Officer.
 - i. In making their recommendation Chief Officers would need to present a strong case addressing both the injury or disability and the prediction of service.
 - ii. For the supporting evidence to be assessed by PM&C, consent to the release of personal/medical information would need to be acquired by the Chief Officer from the individual seeking the award.
 - e. The change would apply from the commencement date of the amended regulations.
5. In usual circumstances, a recipient of the National Medal for 15 years' service can receive clasps to the Medal after 25 years' service and after each additional ten years' service. The proposed regulations do not extend eligibility to clasps.

Background:

6. The National Medal is Australia's most awarded civilian honour. It recognises long and diligent service by members of recognised government and voluntary organisations that risk their lives or safety to protect or assist the community in enforcement of the law or in times of emergency or natural disaster.
 - a. This includes government organisations such as ambulance, correctional, emergency, fire and police forces, and voluntary organisations such as lifesaving or search and rescue groups. Many, but not all, eligible groups are uniformed.

Peter Rush
 Assistant Secretary
 Parliamentary and Government Branch
 5 November 2019

Policy Officer: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Phone no: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
 Consultation: Defence, OOSGG

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A NATIONAL MEDAL AMENDMENT REGULATIONS 2019

ATTACHMENT B LETTER TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

ATTACHMENT C s 47E(d)

ATTACHMENT D LETTER TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

ATTACHMENT E NATIONAL MEDAL REGULATIONS 2011



ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We instituted an Australian medal, designated and styled the National Medal, for the purpose of according recognition to persons who render long service in certain occupations;

AND WHEREAS the Letters Patent ordained that the award of the National Medal be governed by the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal;

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule;

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

GIVEN under the Great Seal of
Australia at Our Court at
St James's on

By Her Majesty's Command

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Prime Minister

Schedule—Amendments

National Medal Regulations 2011

1 Subregulation 2(1)

Insert:

Department means the Department of State administered by the Minister responsible for the administration of the Australian system of honours and awards.

Secretary means the Secretary of the Department.

2 Regulation 14

Before “An”, insert “(1)”.

3 Regulation 14

Omit “and only”.

4 At the end of regulation 14

Add:

- (2) An award of the Medal may be made only by the Governor-General if the Secretary is satisfied that:
 - (a) an award of the Medal cannot be made to the person under subregulation (1); and
 - (b) the person was injured or disabled:
 - (i) after the commencement of this subregulation; and
 - (ii) in the line of duty in the course of giving eligible service as a member of an approved organisation; and
 - (c) but for the injury or disability, the person would have given eligible service as a member of an approved organisation for a period determined in accordance with regulation 18, comprising:
 - (i) a single period of 15 years; or
 - (ii) periods that, in total, amount to 15 years; and
 - (d) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.
 - (3) An award of the Medal may be made only by the Governor-General if:
 - (a) an award of the Medal cannot be made to the person under subregulation (1); and
 - (b) the person died in the line of duty in the course of giving eligible service as a member of an approved organisation; and
 - (c) some of the service was given on a day not more than 15 years before the approval date for the organisation; and
 - (d) if the person died before the approval date for the organisation and the organisation is a government organisation or a voluntary organisation—the primary function of the organisation at the time the person died was the same as the primary function of the organisation on the approval date; and
-

Schedule Amendments

-
- (e) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.

Note Service for which certain other awards have been made must not be recognised for awards of the Medal under subregulation (3): see regulation 18A.

5 Paragraph 15(1)(a)

After “Medal”, insert “(other than under subregulation 14(2) or (3))”.

6 At the end of subregulation 15(1)

Add:

Note A person cannot be awarded a clasp if the person was awarded the Medal under subregulation 14(2) or (3) in relation to injury, disability or death in the course of giving eligible service.

7 Subparagraph 15(2)(b)(i)

Omit “regulation 14”, substitute “subregulation 14(1)”.

8 Subparagraph 15(2)(b)(ii)

After “subregulation (1)”, insert “of this regulation”.

9 After subregulation 16(1)

Insert:

- (1A) If the recommendation is for an award of the Medal under subregulation 14(2), the recommendation:
- (a) must be made to the Secretary; and
 - (b) must be accompanied by written evidence of the matters referred to in paragraphs 14(2)(b) and (c).

10 After regulation 18

Insert:

18A Recognition of eligible service

Service must not be recognised for the award of the Medal under subregulation 14(3) if it is service for which an award for long service, good conduct or efficiency has been made by, or in the name of, The Sovereign or by the Governor-General.

11 Regulation 19

Omit “regulation 14”, substitute “subregulation 14(1)”.

12 After subregulation 30(2)

Insert:

- (2A) The Secretary may delegate the Secretary’s function under subregulation 14(2) to an officer of the Department.

13 Paragraph 30(3)(b)

Omit “Minister”, substitute “person who made the delegation”.



ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS, by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, We instituted an Australian medal, designated and styled the National Medal, for the purpose of according recognition to persons who render long service in certain occupations;

AND WHEREAS the Letters Patent ordained that the award of the National Medal be governed by the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent;

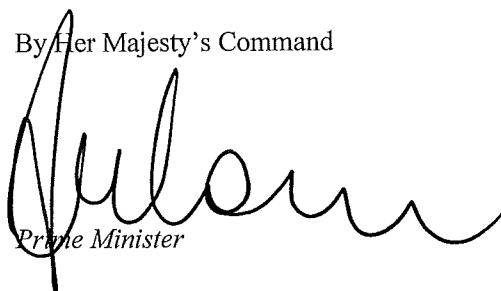
AND WHEREAS it is desirable that certain amendments be made to the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal;

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our pleasure that the Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975, as subsequently amended by Our Letters Patent, be further amended, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done under them, as set out in the Schedule;

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

GIVEN under the Great Seal of
Australia at Our Court at
St James's on

By Her Majesty's Command



Prime Minister

Schedule—Amendments

National Medal Regulations 2011

1 Subregulation 2(1)

Insert:

Department means the Department of State administered by the Minister responsible for the administration of the Australian system of honours and awards.

Secretary means the Secretary of the Department.

2 Regulation 14

Before “An”, insert “(1)”.

3 Regulation 14

Omit “and only”.

4 At the end of regulation 14

Add:

- (2) An award of the Medal may be made only by the Governor-General if the Secretary is satisfied that:
 - (a) an award of the Medal cannot be made to the person under subregulation (1); and
 - (b) the person was injured or disabled:
 - (i) after the commencement of this subregulation; and
 - (ii) in the line of duty in the course of giving eligible service as a member of an approved organisation; and
 - (c) but for the injury or disability, the person would have given eligible service as a member of an approved organisation for a period determined in accordance with regulation 18, comprising:
 - (i) a single period of 15 years; or
 - (ii) periods that, in total, amount to 15 years; and
 - (d) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.
 - (3) An award of the Medal may be made only by the Governor-General if:
 - (a) an award of the Medal cannot be made to the person under subregulation (1); and
 - (b) the person died in the line of duty in the course of giving eligible service as a member of an approved organisation; and
 - (c) some of the service was given on a day not more than 15 years before the approval date for the organisation; and
 - (d) if the person died before the approval date for the organisation and the organisation is a government organisation or a voluntary organisation—the primary function of the organisation at the time the person died was the same as the primary function of the organisation on the approval date; and
-

Schedule Amendments

-
- (e) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.

Note Service for which certain other awards have been made must not be recognised for awards of the Medal under subregulation (3): see regulation 18A.

5 Paragraph 15(1)(a)

After “Medal”, insert “(other than under subregulation 14(2) or (3))”.

6 At the end of subregulation 15(1)

Add:

Note A person cannot be awarded a clasp if the person was awarded the Medal under subregulation 14(2) or (3) in relation to injury, disability or death in the course of giving eligible service.

7 Subparagraph 15(2)(b)(i)

Omit “regulation 14”, substitute “subregulation 14(1)”.

8 Subparagraph 15(2)(b)(ii)

After “subregulation (1)”, insert “of this regulation”.

9 After subregulation 16(1)

Insert:

- (1A) If the recommendation is for an award of the Medal under subregulation 14(2), the recommendation:
- (a) must be made to the Secretary; and
 - (b) must be accompanied by written evidence of the matters referred to in paragraphs 14(2)(b) and (c).

10 After regulation 18

Insert:

18A Recognition of eligible service

Service must not be recognised for the award of the Medal under subregulation 14(3) if it is service for which an award for long service, good conduct or efficiency has been made by, or in the name of, The Sovereign or by the Governor-General.

11 Regulation 19

Omit “regulation 14”, substitute “subregulation 14(1)”.

12 After subregulation 30(2)

Insert:

- (2A) The Secretary may delegate the Secretary’s function under subregulation 14(2) to an officer of the Department.

13 Paragraph 30(3)(b)

Omit “Minister”, substitute “person who made the delegation”.



Commonwealth
of Australia

Gazette

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SPECIAL



Government House
Canberra ACT 2600

20 April 2011

NATIONAL MEDAL REGULATIONS 2011

It is notified for general information that Her Majesty The Queen has approved new regulations for the National Medal. These regulations are to be known as the *National Medal Regulations 2011*.

The new Regulations revoke the Regulations set out in the Letters Patent dated 18 Jun 1999 and amended by Letters Patent dated 4 April 2000, without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder.

The new *National Medal Regulations 2011* can be found on the following websites:

www.itsanhonour.gov.au and www.gg.gov.au.

By Her Majesty's Command

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mark Fraser OAM
Acting Official Secretary to the Governor-General

Cat. No. S11311
ISSN 1032-2345
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ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS by Letters Patent dated 14 February 1975 We instituted an Australian medal, designated and styled the National Medal, for the purpose of according recognition to persons who render long service in certain occupations:

AND WHEREAS the Letters Patent ordained that the award of the National Medal be governed by the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent:

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to make new regulations to govern the award of the National Medal:

KNOW YOU that We do, by these Presents, declare Our Pleasure that:

- (a) the Regulations set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent dated 18 June 1999 and amended by Letters Patent dated 4 April 2000 are revoked, without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder; and
- (b) the award of the National Medal, or a clasp to the National Medal, is governed by the National Medal Regulations set out in the Schedule.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

GIVEN under the Great Seal
of Australia at Our Court at
St James's on 20 April 2011.

By Her Majesty's Command

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) Prime Minister s 22(1)(a)

Schedule

National Medal Regulations 2011

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Regulations

These Regulations are the *National Medal Regulations 2011*.

2 Definitions

- (1) In these Regulations, unless the contrary intention appears:

approved government organisation means:

- (a) an organisation to which a determination under regulation 4 applies; or
- (b) an organisation that is included in a class of organisations to which a determination under regulation 4 applies.

approved organisation means a service organisation, approved government organisation or approved voluntary organisation.

approved voluntary organisation means an organisation to which a determination under regulation 9 applies.

Australia includes the external Territories as defined in the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

clasp means a device that denotes an additional period of 10 years eligible service after the award of the Medal.

Defence Force means the defence force constituted under section 30 of the *Defence Act 1903*.

Defence Force Service Awards Regulations means the Regulations set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent dated 20 April 1982, being the Regulations as amended from time to time.

Regulation 2

defence long service award means:

- (a) a medal or clasp for long service in the Defence Force awarded under any Imperial long service medal regulations; or
- (b) a medal, decoration or clasp under the Defence Force Service Awards Regulations; or
- (c) a medal or clasp under the Defence Long Service Medal Regulations.

Defence Long Service Medal Regulations means the Regulations set out in the Schedule to the Letters Patent dated 26 May 1998, being the Regulations as amended from time to time.

DFSA efficient service means service as a member of the Defence Force that is efficient service under the Defence Force Service Awards Regulations.

DLSM qualifying service means service as a member of the Defence Force that is qualifying service under the Defence Long Service Medal Regulations.

eligible service means service of the kind mentioned in regulation 17.

government organisation means:

- (a) an organisation established under a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory for a purpose of the Commonwealth, State or Territory; or
- (b) an organisation the business of which is under the control of a Minister of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
- (c) an organisation that, in the conduct of its business, is subject to the direction of a Minister of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
- (d) a non-profit organisation operating under an arrangement with the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory; or
- (e) an organisation that is an incorporated company all the shares in the capital of which are owned by the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory.

Regulation 2

Imperial long service medal regulations means any regulations governing the award of medals for long service in the Defence Force as in force immediately before 14 February 1975.

Medal means the National Medal.

Minister means the Minister responsible for the administration of the Australian system of honours and awards or a Minister or member of the Federal Executive Council authorised by the Minister to act on behalf of that Minister.

National Medal means the National Medal instituted under the Letters Patent establishing these Regulations.

organisation (whether used with or without qualification) includes part of an organisation.

Register of Approved Organisations means the register maintained under paragraph 27 (2) (a).

Register of Awards means the register maintained under paragraph 27 (2) (b).

Registrar means the registrar appointed under subregulation 27 (1).

service organisation means a government organisation that is:

- (a) an Australian ambulance service; or
- (b) an Australian correctional service; or
- (c) an Australian emergency service; or
- (d) an Australian fire service; or
- (e) an Australian police force; or
- (f) the Australian Protective Service.

State has the same meaning as in the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Territory has the same meaning as in the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

voluntary organisation means an organisation incorporated in Australia that is not:

- (a) a government organisation; or
- (b) an organisation that is operated for profit.

Regulation 2

- (2) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for:
- (a) an Australian police force; or
 - (b) an Australian fire service; or
 - (c) an Australian ambulance service (including the ambulance operations of the former Priory in Australia of the Order of St John but not including the ambulance operations of St John Ambulance Australia);
- is 14 February 1975.
- (3) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for the ambulance operations of St John Ambulance Australia is 1 January 1987.
- (4) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for the Australian Protective Service is 1 April 1986.
- (5) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for an Australian correctional service or emergency service is 30 April 1987.
- (6) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for an approved government organisation is:
- (a) the approval date, being a date that is not earlier than 30 April 1987, mentioned in the determination under regulation 4 relating to the organisation or the class of organisations in which it is included; or
 - (b) if no approval date is mentioned in the determination — the date of the determination.
- (7) In these Regulations, the *approval date* for an approved voluntary organisation is:
- (a) the approval date, being a date that is not earlier than 30 April 1987, mentioned in the determination, relating to the organisation, under regulation 9; or
 - (b) if no approval date is mentioned in the determination — the date of the determination.
- (8) In these Regulations, the *chief officer* of a service organisation or approved government organisation is a member of the organisation:
- (a) under whose direction the organisation operates; or

Regulation 2

- (b) nominated by the organisation, in writing, to the Registrar, as the chief officer of the organisation for these Regulations.
- (9) In these Regulations, the *chief officer* of an approved voluntary organisation is:
 - (a) a member of the organisation under whose direction the organisation operates; or
 - (b) a person nominated by the organisation, in writing, to the Registrar, as the chief officer of the organisation for these Regulations.

Part 2 Service organisations

Regulation 3

Part 2 Service organisations

3 Consequence of changes to service organisations

- (1) An organisation that is an approved organisation by reason of being a service organisation ceases to be an approved organisation on the date when the organisation ceases to be a service organisation.
- (2) Subregulation (1) does not affect eligible service given before the date when the organisation ceased to be an approved organisation.

Part 3 Government organisations

4 Determination of approved government organisations

The Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Minister, that the following are approved government organisations:

- (a) a government organisation that is not a service organisation;
- (b) government organisations that are included in a class of government organisations and are not service organisations.

5 Recommendation of Minister — government organisations

The Minister may make a recommendation for regulation 4 if the Minister is satisfied, in relation to the organisation, or each organisation included in the class of organisations, that the organisation is similar to a service organisation because:

- (a) the primary function of the organisation is:
 - (i) to enforce the law in order to protect persons or property; or
 - (ii) to provide in Australia, in times of emergency or natural disaster:
 - (A) physical assistance to persons through search or rescue; or
 - (B) physical assistance to protect property or the environment; and
- (b) some or all of the members of the organisation are exposed to the risk of death, injury or trauma (including psychological trauma) in the course of performing that primary function.

Regulation 6

6 Consequence of changes to approved government organisations

- (1) If an approved government organisation has changed its primary function to an extent that it no longer satisfies the requirement mentioned in regulation 5, the Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Minister, that the organisation ceased to be an approved government organisation on, and after, the date on which the change occurred.
- (2) The Minister must inform the organisation concerned, in writing, of the determination.
- (3) A determination under subregulation (1) has no retrospective effect in respect of the approval of the organisation except to the extent mentioned in the determination.

7 Effect of renaming of approved government organisations

- (1) If an approved government organisation changes its name and the Minister is satisfied that the organisation continues to satisfy the requirement in regulation 5, the Minister must inform the Registrar, in writing, of that fact and of the new name of the organisation.
- (2) The renaming of an approved organisation does not, of itself, affect:
 - (a) the approval of the organisation; or
 - (b) what constitutes eligible service in relation to the organisation; or
 - (c) the date from which eligible service with the organisation can be counted.

8 Approved government organisations ceasing to exist

- (1) If an approved government organisation ceases to exist, the Minister must inform the Governor-General, in writing, of that fact and of the date when the organisation ceased to exist.

Regulation 8

- (2) The cessation of an approved government organisation does not affect eligible service given before the date when the organisation ceased to exist.

Regulation 9

Part 4 Voluntary organisations**9 Determination of approved voluntary organisations**

- (1) The Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Minister, that a voluntary organisation is an approved voluntary organisation.
- (2) A determination may be made in respect of an organisation that, at the time the determination is made, has ceased to exist.

10 Recommendation of Minister — voluntary organisations

- (1) For regulation 9, the Minister may make a recommendation for an existing voluntary organisation if the Minister is satisfied that the organisation satisfies, and can reasonably be expected to continue to satisfy, the following requirements:
 - (a) the primary function of the organisation is to provide in Australia, in times of emergency or natural disaster:
 - (i) physical assistance to persons through search or rescue; or
 - (ii) physical assistance to protect property or the environment;
 - (b) the organisation is recognised by the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory as an organisation of the kind described in paragraph (a);
 - (c) in the course of performing the primary function, some or all of the members of the organisation are exposed, from time to time, to the risk of death, injury or trauma (including psychological trauma);
 - (d) a law of the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory requires, or the terms of membership of the organisation require:
 - (i) insurance of members against the risk of death, injury or trauma; or
 - (ii) compensation in the case of death, injury or trauma to members; or

Regulation 11

- (iii) indemnity against loss arising from death, injury or trauma to members;
in the course of performing that primary function;
 - (e) the organisation maintains a training regime to ensure that the members performing the primary function are fit to fulfil their respective parts in the performance of that function;
 - (f) records of the service of each member are maintained for paragraphs (d) and (e) by, or on behalf of, the organisation;
 - (g) the organisation has a chief officer;
 - (h) the organisation allows access by the Minister, or a delegate of the Minister, to its premises and records and to any records maintained on its behalf.
- (2) For regulation 9, the Minister may make a recommendation for an organisation that has ceased to exist if the Minister is satisfied that:
- (a) the organisation satisfied the requirements mentioned in subregulation (1) throughout its existence; and
 - (b) the organisation was in existence on, or after, 30 April 1987.

11 Consequence of changes to approved voluntary organisations

- (1) If an approved voluntary organisation has changed its primary function to an extent that it no longer satisfies a requirement mentioned in subregulation 10 (1), the Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Minister, that the organisation ceased to be an approved voluntary organisation on, and after, the date on which the change occurred.
- (2) The Minister must inform the organisation concerned, in writing, of the determination.
- (3) A determination under subregulation (1) has no retrospective effect in respect of the approval of the organisation except to the extent mentioned in the determination.

Regulation 12

12 Effect of renaming of approved voluntary organisations

- (1) If an approved voluntary organisation changes its name and the Minister is satisfied that the organisation continues to satisfy the requirements mentioned in subregulation 10 (1), the Minister must inform the Registrar, in writing, of that fact and of the new name of the organisation.
- (2) The renaming of an approved organisation does not, of itself, affect:
 - (a) the approval of the organisation; or
 - (b) what constitutes eligible service in relation to the organisation; or
 - (c) the date from which eligible service with the organisation can be counted.

13 Approved voluntary organisations ceasing to exist

- (1) If the Minister becomes aware that an approved voluntary organisation has ceased to exist, the Minister must inform the Governor-General, in writing, of that fact and of the date the organisation ceased to exist.
- (2) The cessation of an approved voluntary organisation does not affect eligible service given before the date when the organisation ceased to exist.

Part 5 Award of Medal and clasps

14 Award of Medal

An award of the Medal may be made only by the Governor-General and only if:

- (a) the person has given eligible service as a member of an approved organisation (or more than 1 approved organisation), for a period determined in accordance with regulation 18, that comprises:
 - (i) a single period of 15 years; or
 - (ii) periods that, in total, amount to 15 years; and
- (b) at least 1 day of that eligible service was given:
 - (i) on, or after, 14 February 1975; and
 - (ii) on, or after, the approval date of that approved organisation (or at least 1 of those approved organisations); and
- (c) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.

15 Award of clasp

- (1) An award of a clasp may be made only by the Governor-General and only if:
 - (a) the person has been awarded the Medal; and
 - (b) the person has met the requirement in subregulation (2); and
 - (c) a recommendation has been made for the award in accordance with regulation 16.
- (2) The requirement is that, as a member of an approved organisation (or more than 1 approved organisation), the person has given eligible service:
 - (a) for a period, determined in accordance with regulation 18, that comprises:
 - (i) a single period of 10 years; or
 - (ii) periods that, in total, amount to 10 years; and

Regulation 16

- (b) in addition to:
 - (i) the period mentioned in regulation 14; or
 - (ii) a period already counted under subregulation (1) for the award of a clasp.

16 Recommendation of chief officer

- (1) An award of the Medal, or a clasp, cannot be made except on the recommendation of:
 - (a) the chief officer of the approved organisation in which the person is, or was last, giving eligible service; or
 - (b) if the last organisation in which the person gave eligible service has been replaced by another approved organisation — the chief officer of that other approved organisation; or
 - (c) for an award of the Medal for service mentioned in regulation 19 — the Chief of the Defence Force or a defence force delegate; or
 - (d) for an award of the Medal or a clasp for service mentioned in regulation 21 if the person:
 - (i) is a member of the Defence Force; or
 - (ii) is a former member of the Defence Force and has not given eligible service in an approved organisation since leaving the Defence Force;
 the Chief of the Defence Force or a defence force delegate.
- (2) If service sought to be counted for the award of the Medal or clasp to a person consists of service in more than 1 approved organisation, the chief officer, the Chief of the Defence Force or the defence force delegate must not make a recommendation under subregulation (1) unless he or she is satisfied that the person's service in all of the organisations is eligible service.
- (3) In this regulation:

defence force delegate means a person to whom the Chief of the Defence Force has delegated his or her power to make a recommendation for an award of the Medal or a clasp.

Regulation 18

17 Eligible service

- (1) Service in an approved organisation is eligible service if:
 - (a) it is service by a member to fulfil the primary function of the organisation; and
 - (b) throughout the period of that service, the member has maintained a level of training sufficient to fulfil the duties of a member for the primary function of the organisation; and
 - (c) the member has served the organisation diligently.

Note Service by a member to fulfil the primary function of the organisation may include providing remote assistance in relation to which the member is exposed to the risk of psychological trauma.

- (2) Service may be eligible service whether the service was given on a full-time, or part-time, basis and whether the service was paid or unpaid.
- (3) Service in an approved government organisation that is an incorporated company all the shares in the capital of which are owned by the Commonwealth, a State or a Territory may be eligible service only if it is service in Australia.
- (4) For subregulation (1), a person has *served an organisation diligently* if, in the opinion of the chief officer of the organisation:
 - (a) the service given by the person has been conscientious and of good standard; and
 - (b) in the performance of the service, the person showed good conduct as a member of the organisation.

18 Determination of length of eligible service

- (1) Service must not be counted for the award of the Medal if it is service for which an award for long service, good conduct or efficiency has been made by, or in the name of, The Sovereign or by the Governor-General.
- (2) Simultaneous periods of eligible service given to approved organisations by a member of those organisations count as a single period of service.

Regulation 19

- (3) Subject to subregulation (4):
 - (a) all eligible service of a person in an organisation given on, or after, the approval date of the organisation may be counted for the purposes of regulation 14 or 15; and
 - (b) all eligible service of a person in an organisation given before the organisation becomes an approved organisation may be counted for the purposes of regulation 14 or 15 if, at the time when the person seeks to have the eligible service counted, the organisation has become an approved organisation.
- (4) A determination under regulation 4 or 9 may specify:
 - (a) the date of the first day of service in the organisation that can be counted as eligible service; or
 - (b) a period within which service can be counted as eligible service.

19 Service with the Defence Force before 20 April 1982

Despite subregulation 18 (1), a period, or periods, of DFSA efficient service or DLSP qualifying service before 20 April 1982 may be counted for the purposes of regulation 14 as if the period, or periods, were an equivalent period, or periods, of eligible service in an approved organisation if:

- (a) the period is, or the periods in total amount to, at least 15 years; and
- (b) the person has given at least 1 day of that service on, or after, 14 February 1975.

20 Periods of service with the Defence Force

- (1) A period, or periods, of DFSA efficient service or DLSP qualifying service may be counted for the purposes of regulation 14 or 15 as if the period, or periods, were an equivalent period, or periods, of eligible service in an approved organisation if:
 - (a) the period has not, or the periods have not, been counted for an award of a defence long service award, because the period is, or the periods in total are:
 - (i) insufficient for any defence long service award; or

Regulation 20

- (ii) in excess of the period, or the total of the periods, for all the defence long service awards that the person has received or is entitled to receive; and
 - (b) at the time when the person is recommended for the award of the Medal or a clasp, the person had ceased to be a member of the Defence Force; and
 - (c) after the person ceased to be a member of the Defence Force, the person gave eligible service as a member of an approved organisation (or more than 1 approved organisation) on, or after, the approval date of that organisation (or at least 1 of those organisations); and
 - (d) the person has not made an election under regulation 21.
- (2) Despite any provision in any Imperial long service medal regulations, the Defence Force Service Awards Regulations or the Defence Long Service Medal Regulations, defence service that has been counted under this regulation cannot be counted for a defence long service award.
- (3) Despite subregulation (2), defence service that has been counted under this regulation may be counted for a defence long service award if:
- (a) subsequent to the award of the Medal or clasp to the person, the person becomes a member of the Defence Force; and
 - (b) the person elects to have the defence service counted for a defence long service award; and
 - (c) the person surrenders that Medal or clasp to the Chief of the Defence Force or a delegate of the Chief of the Defence Force.
- (4) An election under subregulation (3) must be:
- (a) in writing, signed by the person; and
 - (b) given to the Chief of the Defence Force or a delegate of the Chief of the Defence Force at the time the person surrenders the Medal or clasp.

Regulation 21

21 Election in relation to defence service

- (1) A member, or former member, of the Defence Force who has not been awarded a defence long service award and is not entitled to a defence long service award may elect to have DFSA efficient service or DSLM qualifying service counted for the purposes of regulation 14 or 15 as if the service were eligible service in an approved organisation.
- (2) An election under this regulation must be:
 - (a) in writing, signed by the person; and
 - (b) given to the Chief of the Defence Force or a delegate of the Chief of the Defence Force.
- (3) The election may be made only once and is irrevocable.
- (4) Despite any provision in any Imperial long service medal regulations, the Defence Force Service Awards Regulations or the Defence Long Service Medal Regulations, a person who makes an election under this regulation is not eligible for a defence long service award.

22 Service in Papua New Guinea

- (1) A period of service given by a person in Papua New Guinea before 1 December 1973 may be counted for the purposes of regulation 14 or 15 as if it were a period of eligible service in an approved organisation if:
 - (a) the service was:
 - (i) as a police officer in the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary; or
 - (ii) as a member of a PNG service organisation; and
 - (b) the service was of a kind mentioned in paragraphs 17 (1) (a), (b) and (c).

Note A period of service in Papua New Guinea before 1 December 1973 may only be counted as eligible service under regulation 14 if the person has also given at least 1 day of eligible service with an approved organisation (or more than 1 approved organisation):

- (a) on or after 14 February 1975; and
- (b) on or after the approval date of that approved organisation (or at least 1 of those approved organisations).

Regulation 23

See paragraph 14 (b).

(2) In this regulation:

PNG service organisation means an organisation established by, or under the control of, the Papua New Guinea Administration (except a voluntary organisation) that is an ambulance service, correctional service, emergency service or fire service.

Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary means the following:

- (a) Field Constabulary Branch of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary;
- (b) Regular Constabulary Branch of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary.

Note The Voluntary Branch is not treated as part of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary for the purposes of this regulation.

23 Service by secondee from foreign service organisation

- (1) A period of eligible service given in an Australian organisation by a person who is a member of a foreign service organisation while on secondment to, or exchange with, the Australian organisation is taken to be service given as a member of that Australian organisation if the person subsequently becomes a member of an Australian organisation.

(2) In this regulation:

Australian organisation means a service organisation or the Defence Force.

foreign service organisation means:

- (a) an ambulance service, correctional service, emergency service, fire service or police force of a country other than Australia; or
- (b) a military, naval, or air force of a country other than Australia.

Regulation 24

24 Cancellation and restoration of awards

- (1) The Governor-General, acting on the recommendation of the relevant chief officer or the Minister, may:
 - (a) cancel an award made to a person under these Regulations; and
 - (b) reinstate an award that has been cancelled.
- (2) If an award is cancelled:
 - (a) the Registrar must note the cancellation in the Register of Awards; and
 - (b) the person must return the Medal or clasp to the Registrar.
- (3) If an award is reinstated, the Registrar must:
 - (a) note the reinstatement in the Register of Awards; and
 - (b) return the Medal or clasp.
- (4) In this regulation:
relevant chief officer means:
 - (a) the chief officer of the approved organisation whose chief officer recommended the award, or latest award, to the person; or
 - (b) if the approved organisation whose chief officer recommended the award, or latest award, has been replaced by another approved organisation — the chief officer of that other approved organisation.

Part 6 The Medal and clasps

25 Design of Medal and clasps

The design of the Medal, or of a clasp, is the design determined by the Governor-General.

26 Wearing of Medal or clasp

The manner in which and occasions on which the Medal or a clasp or clasps may be worn are as determined by the Governor-General.

Regulation 27

Part 7 Administration**27 Registrar**

- (1) The Governor-General must appoint a Registrar of National Medals.
- (2) The Registrar must maintain:
 - (a) a Register of Approved Organisations, containing the name of each organisation to which a determination under regulation 4 or 9 applies; and
 - (b) a Register of Awards, containing the name of each person to whom the Medal or a clasp has been awarded; and
 - (c) such other records, relating to the Medal, as the Governor-General directs.
- (3) The Registrar must enter in the Register of Approved Organisations, in respect of each organisation:
 - (a) the approval date for the organisation; and
 - (b) if applicable:
 - (i) details of the specification in a determination under regulation 4 or 9 of the date from which, or the period within which, eligible service can be counted for these Regulations; and
 - (ii) the date when, and the reason why, the organisation ceases to be an approved organisation; and
 - (iii) the new name of the organisation.
- (4) The Registrar may alter an entry in a register to correct an error in the entry.

28 Revocation of determination of approval

The Governor-General, acting on the recommendation of the Minister, may revoke, in writing, a determination under regulation 4 or 9.

Regulation 31

29 Power to determine guidelines

The Governor-General may determine, in writing, on the recommendation of the Minister, guidelines for the implementation of these Regulations.

30 Delegations

- (1) The Minister may delegate, in writing, a function, duty or power of the Minister under these Regulations, except this power of delegation.
- (2) The Minister may delegate the power to make a recommendation under subregulation 24 (1) only to a member of the Federal Executive Council under summons.
- (3) A delegation under this regulation:
 - (a) is revocable at will; and
 - (b) does not prevent the exercise or performance of a function, duty or power by the Minister; and
 - (c) continues in force until expressly revoked.

31 Transitional

A power exercised by the Governor-General under the Regulations Governing the Award of the National Medal (the *revoked Regulations*) in force immediately before the commencement of these Regulations, being a power equivalent to a power that may be exercised by the Governor-General under these Regulations, has the same effect under these Regulations as it had under the revoked Regulations.