



THE HON. DR MIKE KELLY MP Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support

Wednesday, 30 April 2008

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INDEPENDENT DEFENCE HONOURS AND AWARDS TRIBUNAL CHAIRPERSON TO BE ADVERTISED

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, today announced that the position of chair of the independent Defence Honours and Awards tribunal will be advertised on 3 May 2008.

Dr Kelly said, "During last year's election campaign, the Government undertook to form a permanent independent tribunal to oversight Defence honours and Awards".

"I see the selection of a chair to head up this tribunal as a significant first step in meeting this promise."

It is envisaged that the chair will:

- Be well respected, with proven experience in leadership roles, not necessarily in Defence or Veterans' areas.
- Have a sound knowledge of the higher workings of Government
- Have a legal background or experience in administrative decision making.

The role of the chair will be to manage the tribunal, lead particular inquiries, attend panel hearings and meetings, and to ratify panel decisions before making recommendations to Government.

The chair will lead members of the tribunal who will have had experience, qualifications or expertise in Defence and/or Australian history or as an independent professional. Tribunal panel member positions will be advertised in the next couple of months.

"I will keep the ADF and ex-service community informed of progress in the establishment of this important tribunal," Dr Kelly said.

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