

DEFENCE MAGAZINE

Charter of Operations

(1) The functions of the publication are:

- (a) to provide the Department of Defence with an innovative, comprehensive and high standard publication that aims to reflect the Senior Leadership's directions and aspirations for the organisation, inform its readership of changes to Defence policy and report on positive human interest stories with direct relevance to Defence;
- (b) to publish materials that contribute to a sense of Defence identity, are informative and entertain, and reflect the diversity of the Defence organisation;
- (c) to encourage an awareness and understanding within the organisation of issues facing the various arms of Defence;
- (d) to report and interpret honestly, striving for accuracy, fairness and disclosure of all essential facts, and do its utmost to give a fair opportunity for reply; and
- (e) to ensure no unnecessary emphasis on personal characteristics, including race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, sexual orientation, family relationships, religious belief, or physical or intellectual disability.

(2) In providing the publication to the Department of Defence on behalf of the Secretary and Chief of the Defence Force, staff will take account of:

- (a) directions set by Senior Leadership;
- (b) issues with the potential to damage the organisation's reputation; and
- (c) Defence and Public Service values.

(3) Oversight to ensure the publication meets its Charter is to be provided by:

- (a) an Editorial Board comprising Assistant Secretary Governance and Renewal; Director Leadership Communications; the Editor; and representatives of the Secretary of Defence, Chief of the Defence Force, Defence Public Affairs and the Groups. The board is to meet in order to discuss proposed articles and relevant issues, while also providing guidance that will increase readability and interest;
- (b) clearance of articles by subject matter expert SES Band 1 and 1 Star officers (final clearance of articles by First Assistant Secretary Governance and Implementation);
- (c) a network of Strategic Communications Advisers from the Groups and Services who act on behalf of the Senior Leadership to provide the Editor with relevant, informative and high-quality news and feature articles for publication on a regular basis; and
- (d) the Editor ensuring accurate and comprehensive reporting of those issues deemed to fall within its Charter.

(4) Defence Senior Leadership will seek to create an environment in which the publication is able to meet its charter obligations by:

- (a) reinforcing at Defence executive level the importance of viable internal communication by ensuring their executives actively and regularly contribute content for publication;
- (b) facilitating access to Senior Leadership; and
- (c) providing strategic direction for their Group, Executive or Service.