

From: s47E(c) on behalf of HQAC Chief of Staff and SADFO
Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 9:08 AM
To: Office of the Deputy Chief of Air Force
Cc: PSO Air Commander Australia; s47E(c)
Subject: RE: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Defence Portfolio Budget Statements 2026-27 - Air Force Flying Hours & Indigenous Acty.docx

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

OFFICIAL

Good morning s47E(c),

As discussed, HQAC update attached. Below summarises where DCAF changes have been incorporated, or where consulted advice is to retain, or modify the DCAF amendments. Amendments/deletions in footnotes have been incorporated.

Cheers,

s47E(c)

s47C

s47E(c)

s47E(c) @defence.gov.au | W: s47E(c) | M: s22
Headquarters Air Command | Royal Australian Air Force | RAAF Glenbrook NSW 2773

Alert and Ready

Royal Australian Air Force
Headquarters Air Command



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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** Office of the Deputy Chief of Air Force
Sent: Monday, 16 March 2026 11:57 AM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Cc: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>;
Adams, Jules AIRCDRE <jules.adams@defence.gov.au>; PSO Air Commander Australia
<s47E(d)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Importance: High

OFFICIAL

s47E(c),

DCAF has reviewed and has the commented in the attached scan. His larger section of comments is transcribed below for reference.

He has requested a revisit of the flying hours as he believes we are being overly optimistic, s22

Please advise if there are any key aspects DCAF may not be tracking that would invalidate this reduction in hours requirement. If there is nothing, please make adjustments in line with his intent.

We have received an extension until Friday 20 Mar for submission (this includes CAF review), and DCAF will be addressing directly with ACAUST for a quick chat when they find time during the conference to ensure both AFHQ and Air Command are aligned.

DCAF Annotations:

s47C

Kind regards

s47E(c)

w: s47E(c) | m: s22 | e: s47E(c) @defence.gov.au
Office of the Chief of Air Force | s47E(c) | P.O. Box 7902 | CANBERRA BC | ACT 2610

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s22

From: s47E(c)
To: s47E(c)
Cc: [PSO Air Commander Australia](#); s47E(c); s47E(c); s47E(c); s47E(c)
Subject: RE: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission - recommend consult session with DCAUST/ACAUST [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 16 March 2026 1:55:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
s22
[image002.jpg](#)

OFFICIAL

s47E(c),

Ack the task.

A8 Capability & Reporting Analysis team is reviewing DCAF feedback now. Recommend a consultation session with DCAUST and/or ACAUST Tuesday or Wednesday to allow them to receive A8 advice and set their own left & right of arc for HQAC final response to this task iteration.

Note that forecasts are not changed lightly due to inter-relationships with: annual CAF approval of flying ROE (ten-year look ahead); platform sustainment targets & associated financial management via DMFP, Start Year and Mid Year review processes; and reporting of flying RoE actuals & forecast via PBS and PAES.

s22

Regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Headquarters Air Command

s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook | s47E(c) LIVERPOOL NSW 1871
P: s47E(c) | M: s22 | E: s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](mailto:s47E(c)@defence.gov.au)

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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 16 March 2026 12:01 PM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)

<s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>

Cc: PSO Air Commander Australia <s47E(d)@defence.gov.au>

Subject: FW: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

OFFICIAL

G'day s47E(c),

See below and attached from ODCAF, if you/the team can review and action. I'll update in Objective/task tracker shortly.

s47E(c) – What timeline works for you to get this to ACAUST, noting CAF will also need to review/clear by end of the week.

Cheers,

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

s47E(c) @defence.gov.au | W: s47E(c) | M: s22

Headquarters Air Command | Royal Australian Air Force | RAAF Glenbrook NSW 2773

Alert and Ready



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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 10:55 AM
To: s47E(c)
Subject: FW: AMG Flying Hours FY25/26 forecast Achievement ~~[SEC - OFFICIAL Sensitive]~~
Attachments: 250703 - Minute - Approval of Flying Rate of Effort (FY25-26 to FY 35-36).obr

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

s47E(c),

Does the below answer the mail? Happy to refine before it goes further up the chain.

s47C



s47E(c)

A8 Capability

s47E(c) | Headquarters Air Mobility Group | RAAF Amberley QLD 4305

T: s47E(c) | M: s22

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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 6:59 AM

To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>

Subject: RE: AMG Flying Hours FY25/26 forecast Achievement ~~[SEC - OFFICIAL Sensitive]~~

~~OFFICIAL Sensitive~~

Hey s47E(c),

Some additional questions to consider as part of the response:

s47C

Regards,

s47E(c)

SO2 Capability Reporting and Analysis – HQAC A8

Royal Australian Air Force | HQ Air Command

s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook, NSW 2773

T: s47E(c) | E: s47E(c)@defence.gov.au

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From: s47E(c)

Sent: Monday, 16 March 2026 2:47 PM

To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Cc: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c)
<s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: AMG Flying Hours FY25/26 forecast Achievement ~~[SEC- OFFICIAL: Sensitive]~~
Importance: High

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Hey s47E(c),

We have had some additional questions back from SODCAF in relation to achievement and forecast of AMG Flying hours.

Could you please provide a response to the questions below NLT 1200 17 Mar 26:

s47C

Regards,

s47E(c)

SO2 Capability Reporting and Analysis – HQAC A8

Royal Australian Air Force | HQ Air Command
s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook, NSW 2773

T: s47E(c) | E: s47E(c)@defence.gov.au

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 4:58 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(c)
Subject: RE: E-7A Flying Hours [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c),

s47C

Regards

s47E
(c)

SO1 IAMD Capability | A8 Integrated Air & Missile Defence
Headquarters Surveillance & Response Group (HQSRG)

Royal Australian Air Force | s47E(c) | RAAF WILLIAMTOWN | NSW 2314

P: s47E(c) | M: s22
E: s47E(c) @defence.gov.au

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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 4:34 PM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: E-7A Flying Hours [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hey s4,
7

As discussed on the phone, E-7A has historically flown under its target of 3,600hrs. s47C

Regards,

s47E(c)

SO2 Capability Reporting and Analysis – HQAC A8

Royal Australian Air Force | HQ Air Command
s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook, NSW 2773

T: s47E(c) | E: s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](mailto:s47E(c)@defence.gov.au)

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Wednesday, 18 March 2026 10:25 AM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(c)
Subject: RE: P8 Flying hours [SEC - OFFICIAL Sensitive]

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Good morning s47E(c),

The current plan has us growing to s33(a)(ii). There is risk to that based on specific categories and throughput at 292SQN, but that is the no risk released plan.

Regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

SO1 Capability (MC-55A, MQ-4C, P-8A)
HQSRG A8 AISR
RAAF Base Edinburgh, SA

s47E(c) | s22

Royal Australian Air Force



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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 March 2026 9:06 AM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Cc: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: P8 Flying hours
Importance: High

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

Hey s47E(c)

Just following up from yesterday's discussion. DCAF has reviewed our submission for flying hours over the next 4 years s47C

s33(a)(ii).

I am therefore seeking on when P8 is likely to achieve s33(a)(ii)? Based on the CAF approved flying hours, this looks to occur in FY31/32.

Historically P8 has flown under its targeted ROE (this may be a mixture of serviceability/availability and workforce issues). s47C

s47C

Regards,

s47E(c)

SO2 Capability Reporting and Analysis – HQAC A8

Royal Australian Air Force | HQ Air Command
s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook, NSW 2773

T: s47E(c) | E: s47E(c) @defence.gov.au

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From: s47E(c)
Sent: Wednesday, 18 March 2026 12:22 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(c); s47E(c)
Subject: RE: Flying Hours - further follow up query for ACG - Hawk & Growler [SEC=OFFICIAL]

s47E(c),

s33(a)(ii) Noting that the response provided on the 27 Feb did state that flying hours had only been adjusted out to FY28/29 as 82WG and the SPO work through the DMFP impacts on the outer year flying hours.

The Hawk data of 5500 hours is correct based on historical performance, Hawk has achieved 5700 hours or higher in the past. s22

5500 hours is required to support the OA training pipeline of s33(a)(iii) and s33(a)(ii) p/a.

Let me know if you require any additional information.

Regards

s47E(c)

From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 17 March 2026 5:03 PM
To: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Cc: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>; s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: Flying Hours - further follow up query for ACG - Hawk & Growler [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi s47E(c),

s22 but we (A8) seek yet another consult with ACG on flying hour forecasts for Hawk 127 and EA-18G Growler across the forward estimates (next four FYs). That forecast will appear in the Portfolio Budget Statements. Need for further consult is driven by DCAF s47C
His focus is on credible forecasting that takes account of any key long term limfacs that may frustrate ability to credibly reach current forecasts.

See attached for DCAF markup on the draft PBS entry.

s47E(c) and s47E(c) intend to engage ACG tomorrow (via yourself) for a consult on proposed response to DCAF – to ensure we have not missed any key considerations which might warrant a different response on those two platforms.

s47E(c)

Headquarters Air Command

s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook | s47E(c) LIVERPOOL NSW 1871
P: s47E(c) | M: s22 | E: s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](mailto:s47E(c)@defence.gov.au)

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From: s47E(c)
To: s47E(c)
Cc: s47E(c); s47E(c)
Subject: 260319 - Email - s47E(c) /s47 - AIR FORCE INPUT TO FY. 2026-27 DEFENCE PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS - Response to DCAF feedback
Date: Thursday, 19 March 2026 8:07:37 AM
Attachments: S22

~~OFFICIAL: Sensitive~~

s47E(c),

DCAF requested a revisit of the Air Force flying RoE generated for the 2026-27 Defence PBS. Within that request DCAF outlined adjustments to RoE (reductions) and explanatory notes for various platforms while allowing for an alternate position on RoE if advice could be provided that would invalidate the reductions he outlined.

A8 staff have reviewed DCAF's feedback, consulted with relevant FEGs, and drafted an updated profile. That update incorporates DCAF's adjustments for some platforms and proposes an alternate RoE profile (to DCAF's adjustment) for other platforms.

Updated profiles and notes at attached link (Defence Portfolio Budget Statements 2026-27 ...)

Have also attached consult exchanges with relevant FEG reps that have informed A8 advice.

To explain the adjustments, a summary is provided below of DCAF feedback, additional information that has been sourced in response to that feedback, and the A8 recommended adjustment to the PBS RoE profile.

s47C

Kind regards

s47E(c)

s47E(c)

Headquarters Air Command

s47E(c) | RAAF Base Glenbrook | s47E(c) LIVERPOOL NSW 1871
P: s47E(c) | M: s22 | E: s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](mailto:s47E(c)@defence.gov.au)

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From: s47E(c)
To: [PSO Air Commander Australia](#)
Cc: s47E(c); s47E(c)
Subject: 260319 - Email - s47E(c) / PSO Air Commander Australia - FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission
Date: Thursday, 19 March 2026 4:16:20 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

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Ack

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From: s47E(c) **On Behalf Of** PSO Air Commander Australia
Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 3:59 PM
To: s47E(c)
Cc: HQAC Chief of Staff and SADFO <s47E(d)@defence.gov.au>; Barns, Susie AIRCDRE s47E <s47E(d)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: FW: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

G'day s47E(c)

Apologies for the double-tap if s47E(c) has already passed this to you.

Re. the below, ACAUST's direction is to make updates IAW DCAF's guidance – clearance through DACAUST.

Regards

s47E(c)
E: s47E(c) [@defence.gov.au](#) | s47E(d) [@defence.gov.au](#)
W: s47E(c) | M: s22
Headquarters Air Command | Royal Australian Air Force | Glenbrook NSW 2773
cid:image002.png@01D2FEF1.B64C1AA0



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From: s47E(c) <s47E(c)@defence.gov.au> **On Behalf Of** Office of the Deputy Chief of Air Force
Sent: Thursday, 19 March 2026 1:14 PM
To: HQAC Chief of Staff and SADFO s47E(d)@defence.gov.au
Cc: PSO Air Commander Australia <s47E(d)@defence.gov.au>
Subject: RE: FY2026/27 Portfolio Budget Statement - Air Force submission [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

G'day s47E(c),

DCAF has reviewed the hours. He intends to address a few items with ACAUST this afternoon. Noting many of the suggestions have been included, s47C

Specifically addressing certain aspects:

s47C

Can speak further if required.

Kind regards

s47E(c)

w: s47E(c) | m: s22 | e: s47E(c)@defence.gov.au
Office of the Chief of Air Force | s47E(c) | P.O. Box 7902 | CANBERRA BC | ACT 2610

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