TEMPLATE FOR FEEDBACK
RECOGNISING THEIR SACRIFICE - DISCUSSION PAPER

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ORGANISATION (if applicable)			
Position (if applicable)			
Name (optional)			
Stakeholder Group (please tick all applicable)	ADF Member ☐	Veteran ☐	Veteran Organisation ☐
	Family member of ADF member or veteran ☐		
	Other ☐ Please describe:		

This template is provided to assist with provision of feedback on the Department of Defence (Defence) *Recognising their Sacrifice – Discussion Paper.* The template is provided to guide responses.

The questions posed in this response template are taken from the topics and questions within the Discussion Paper. The questions in the discussion paper are available to prompt consideration and discussion around different components.

Please provide your completed feedback by **29 January 2027**. Please email responses to recognising.sacrifice@defence.gov.au with the subject line 'Feedback on RTS discussion paper'

DISCUSSION PAPER						
1.	**Recognising ADF members who die while in service (pages 9-11 of the Discussion Paper)**					
	Please rate your agreement to the below statements. If you select disagree or strongly disagree to the comments below please provide further information or alternate approaches in the comment box.	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	I/We support an insignia attached to the Australian Defence Medal for ADF members who die while in service.	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree with the eligibility criteria for this recognition (page 9 of the Discussion Paper).	○	○	○	○	○
	The intent of this recognition is meaningful and respectful.	○	○	○	○	○
	The proposed approach to recognising death in service avoids harm, distress or unintended consequences.	○	○	○	○	○

	Please rate your agreement to the below statements	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	I/we agree that a defined period of time should apply within which a service related injury occurs and the member's death can be considered connected for recognition purposes.	○	○	○	○	○
	ADF members who die by suicide while in service, should be eligible for recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
	ADF members who die when their death can be attributed to service, should be eligible for recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
	Eligibility for recognition should be determined using existing Defence evidence that a death occurred while in service or was directly linked to service.	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We like the indicative design of this recognition (page 10 of the Discussion Paper.)	○	○	○	○	○
	How could Defence assess eligibility for this recognition without introducing complexities that may adversely affect the member or their family?					

COMMENTS:

2.	**Recognition of families of members who die while in service (pages 12-14 of the Discussion Paper)**					
	Please rate your agreement to the below statements. *If you select disagree or strongly disagree to the comments below please provide further information or alternate approaches in the comment box.*	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	Families of ADF members who die while in service should receive formal recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
	The suggested form of recognition (lapel pin) for families is appropriate.	○	○	○	○	○

	Please rate your agreement to the below statements	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	I/We agree with the eligibility criteria for this recognition (page 12 of the Discussion Paper).	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree that this form of recognition recognises multiple immediate family members in an equitable and consistent manner.	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We like the indicative design of this recognition (page 13 of the Discussion Paper).	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree that an insignia-based approach to recognition is practical, sustainable and capable of remaining contemporary over time.	○	○	○	○	○
COMMENTS:						

3.	**Memorial scroll (pages 15-16 of the Discussion Paper)**					
	Please rate your agreement to the below statements. *If you select disagree or strongly disagree to the comments below please provide further information or alternate approaches in the comment box.*	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	Issuing a single memorial scroll to the next of kin of an ADF member whose death is recognised as service-related is an appropriate form of recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
	Contemporary forms of recognition should be considered as an alternative to a memorial scroll.	○	○	○	○	○
COMMENTS:						

4.	**Recognition of ADF members who sustain a serious service-related injury, illness or disability whilst on Defence operational service, exercise or activity (pages 17-21 of the Discussion Paper.)**					
	Please rate your agreement to the below statements. *If you select disagree or strongly disagree to the comments below please provide further information or alternate approaches in the comment box.*	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	ADF members who sustain a serious injury, illness or disability during, or arising from, their service should receive recognition with an insignia attached to the Australian Defence Medal.	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree with the eligibility criteria for this recognition (page 18 of the Discussion Paper).	○	○	○	○	○
	Mental health conditions that occur during service, or are directly linked to service, should be considered when assessing eligibility for this recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
	Eligible service should include operational service, training activities and exercises.	○	○	○	○	○
	Defence records (such as medical records and separation documentation) provide an appropriate basis for determining eligibility for this recognition.	○	○	○	○	○
COMMENTS:						

5.	**Retrospective application of recognition (pages 22-23 of the Discussion Paper.)**					
	Please rate your agreement to the below statements. *If you select disagree or strongly disagree to the comments below please provide further information or alternate approaches in the comment box.*	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
	The proposed recognition should apply retrospectively to service from 14 February 1975, when the Australian honours and awards system was established.	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree with the eligibility criteria for retrospective recognition (page 22 of the Discussion Paper).	○	○	○	○	○
	I/We agree with using Defence documentation alone to determine eligibility.	○	○	○	○	○
	Difficulties in sourcing appropriate Defence documentation may lead to unfair or inconsistent eligibility outcomes.	○	○	○	○	○
COMMENTS:						

Please rank the following recognition areas from most important to least important, where 1 is the most important and 6 is the least important:

Recognition of sacrifice	
Fairness and consistency of recognition	
Support for families	
Retrospective recognition	
Alignment with existing honours system	
Administrative simplicity	
Evidence based recognition	

GENERAL/ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: