

## DFRDB UPDATE - January 2019

Hi All,

For those who have not seen Herb's latest [audio-visual presentation](#) or did not fully grasp the detail, Herb has produced this overview [DFRDB – The Denial of Benefits](#).

So far, we have received only an automated response from the Attorney General to say it has been forwarded to Minister Chester's Department. Before we can progress it to the Commonwealth Ombudsman, we are obliged to wait for a reply.

After the referral of our cause, by Maj Gen David Ferguson AM CSC, to journalist Sam Buckingham-Jones of *The Australian*, an article featured on page 3 of that publication on 14 Jan 2019. Click [here](#) to view the article.

Our sincere thanks go to David Ferguson. It goes to show what is possible when our senior officers stand up for us and use their influence.

While there are many ex-service organisations (ESO), we are led to believe as many as 1500, the Alliance of Defence Service Organizations (ADSO) has regular direct access to Minister Darren Chester. But ADSO has only 18 affiliated ESOs of which; a leading member is the Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA).

However, ADSO and DFWA represent a raft of issues. Their policy objectives in relation to DFRDB are no longer relevant, and it is unclear if they intend to represent our concerns.

Until we have a united voice on DFRB/DFRDB/MSBS, we are an easy target for rejection. Like Herb and myself, many of you are members of ex-service organisations, and we ask you to consider what is your organisation doing for you? Is your local branch interested? Are they taking the matter up with State and National bodies? Are their National bodies affiliated with ADSO?

We continue to be a conduit for DFRDB matters and are continuing our research to strengthen our case. We have established our web site <https://www.adfra.org/> as a forum for all military superannuation grievances and encourage all who are disaffected to register.

While we are aware of concerns raised by MSBS recipients, neither Herb nor I are experts on the subject. We need MSBS recipients to register on the web site and express those concerns. We can then help to compile them into formal presentations.

Regards,

**Jim Hislop**