



AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE RETIREES ASSOCIATION

We act on behalf of Defence Force Retirees and their Military Superannuation grievances

Register on: <https://www.adfra.org/>

Contact us on: admin@adfra.org

DEFENCE FORCE RETIREMENT AND DEATH BENEFITS (DFRDB) SCHEME

THE DENIAL OF FULL SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS

Members of the DFRDB Scheme are being denied their full superannuation benefits because:

1. The Consumer Price Index, which was used to adjust their benefits from 1976 to 2014, did not keep pace with the cost of living;
2. Indexation increases are not applied to the full amount of their benefits; and
3. Lifetime benefit reductions based on long outdated (1962) life expectancy factors, in exchange for a lump sum advance to help them resettle into civilian life, are grossly disproportionate.

On March 25, The Hon Darren Chester MP announced that the Government would commission an independent inquiry to examine the information provided by scheme administrators and relevant departments to members of the superannuation scheme.

On 26 March, The Hon Amanda Rishworth MP announced that if Labor is successful at the next election, it would continue this process in consultation with the ex-serving community.

On 5 April, Minister Chester wrote to the Commonwealth Ombudsman to ask him to consider undertaking an investigation to resolve the matter.

WHAT WE WANT

1. Rather than the current narrow focus of the proposed Inquiry, the Terms of Reference must be expanded to address **ALL** the concerns which have long been raised by the members of the DFRDB scheme? and
2. Rather than the Commonwealth Ombudsman, a respected member of the judiciary, who is truly independent of the Government, must be appointed to head the Inquiry?

WHY?

Because, regardless of which Government has been in power, on the advice of the bureaucrats in the Departments of Defence and Finance, they have refused to address these concerns.