

DISTINGUISHED

SERVICE

decorations



Issued by the Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General Government House, Canberra

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HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



A MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY GENERAL THE HONOURABLE DAVID HURLEY AC DSC (Retd)

Every day, all around the country, there are ordinary Australians doing extraordinary things in their communities. The summation of these often selfless and generous actions enriches our society.

Honours and Awards recipients come from all walks of life but have one thing in common: they have left an indelible, remarkable imprint across our community, professional and public sectors.

Importantly, our Honours and Awards system is 100 per cent nomination based. All recipients have been nominated by their peers. It doesn't matter who you are, where you are from or whether you are known to millions or just a few. If you have put others ahead of yourself and made a positive difference to the community, you can be nominated for an award and, if successful, recognised by a grateful nation.

Any Australian can nominate someone for an award. If you know of someone in your community who has made Australia a better place in which to live and work, I encourage you to consider nominating them. For details on how to nominate, visit https://www.gg.gov.au/australian-honours-and-awards

On behalf of all Australians, I congratulate and thank all recipients of honours and awards, past and present, for their outstanding contribution to our nation. They are a source of inspiration to us all and have helped make Australia the great country that it is.



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Contents

INTRODUCTION	7
INSIGNIA DESIGN	9
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS AND MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION - LETTERS PATENT AND REGULATIONS	13
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS AND MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION - DETERMINATIONS	23
CONTACT INFORMATION	32



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INTRODUCTION

The Distinguished Service Decorations and the Meritorious Unit Citation were approved by Her Majesty The Queen on 15 January 1991 and replaced a number of Imperial decorations.

The Distinguished Service Decorations were instituted for the purpose of recognising service in warlike operations. They are awarded primarily to members of the Australian Defence Force.

There are three levels of decoration:

- Distinguished Service Cross awarded only for distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations
- Distinguished Service Medal awarded only for distinguished leadership in warlike operations
- Commendation for Distinguished Service awarded only for distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations

The Meritorious Unit Citation recognises sustained outstanding service in warlike operations by units of the Defence Force and by units of the defence forces of other countries.

The Governor-General makes the award of Distinguished Service Decorations and Meritorious Unit Citation on the recommendation of the Minister of State for Defence. These awards are normally announced on Australia Day (26 January) and The Queen's Birthday public holiday (June) each year. The Governor-General may also make immediate awards of Distinguished Service Decorations on the recommendation of the Minister and these are announced as they occur.

Upon publication of their award, recipients are entitled to have the appropriate post nominals placed after their name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary. This is not applicable to the awards of the Commendation for Distinguished Service and the Meritorious Unit Citation which do not confer post nominals. The awards mentioned above may also be made posthumously and presented to the next-of-kin.





INSIGNIA DESIGN



IN DECEMBER 1986 THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE, THE HONOURABLE KIM BEAZLEY ANNOUNCED THE WINNERS IN THE OPEN STAGE OF THE DEFENCE FORCE AWARDS DESIGN COMPETITION. AS A RESULT, 11 NEW AWARDS WERE DESIGNED TO BE ADDED TO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM, INCLUDING THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS AND THE MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION.

The Distinguished Service Cross is a modified maltese cross of nickel-silver ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward. The obverse bears a Federation Star on a disc of flames. The Distinguished Service Medal is a circular medal ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward of nickel-silver. The obverse bears a Federation Star superimposed on a circle of flames. These awards have ribbons of different combinations of the silver-blue of the Australian bush and ochre-red of the rocks and earth, symbolic of timelessness and unchanging. The Commendation for Distinguished Service is a central Federation Star on a nickel-silver row of flames that taper at each end. The Commendation for Distinguished Service is mounted on a ribbon of plain ochre-red of the rocks and earth.

The Meritorious Unit Citation is a rhodium plated sterling silver rectangular frame, with a design of flames emanating from the edge to the centre. The frame surrounds a ribbon bar of old gold, which displays a rhodium plated sterling silver Federation Star on its centre.









THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (DSC)

Shall be awarded only for distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations.



THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL (DSM)

Shall be awarded only for distinguished leadership in warlike operations.



COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Shall be awarded only for distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations.



MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

Shall be awarded to a unit only for sustained outstanding service in warlike operations.





DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS

and

MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

LETTERS PATENT

and

REGULATIONS







ELIZABETH R

Commonwealth of Australia

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the Grace of God Queen of Australia and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS it is desirable that there be instituted certain decorations for the purpose of recognising gallantry in action or oustanding service in warlike operations by units of the Defence Force and by units of the defence forces of other countries:

KNOW YOU that We do by these Presents institute two Australian decorations to be designated and styled, respectively, the Unit Citation for Gallantry and the Meritorious Unit Citation:

AND WE DO ordain that the award of the decorations so instituted shall be governed by the Regulations set out in the Schedule.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

L.S.

Given under the Great Seal of Australia at Our Court at St. James's on 15 January 1991

By Her Majesty's Command,

R.J.L. HAWKE Prime Minister

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS REGULATIONS

AS AMENDED

made under

LETTERS PATENT

This compilation was prepared taking into account amendments up to Letters Patent dated 13 December 2011 (2012, No. S18).



SCHEDULE

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS REGULATIONS

SHORT TITLE

1 These Regulations may be cited as the Distinguished Service Decorations Regulations.

INTERPRETATION

- 2 In these Regulations -
 - "decoration"means:
 - (a) the Distinguished Service Cross;
 - (b) the Distinguished Service Medal;
 - (c) the Commendation for Distinguished Service; or
 - (d) a bar to the Cross or Medal.
 - "Defence Force" has the same meaning as in the *Defence Act* 1903;
 - "Minister" means the Minister of State for Defence.

CONDITIONS FOR AWARD OF DECORATIONS

- 3 (1) The Distinguished Service Cross shall be awarded only for distinguished command and leadership in warlike operations.
 - (2) The Distinguished Service Medal shall be awarded only for distinguished leadership in warlike operations.
 - (3) The Commendation for Distinguished Service shall be awarded only for distinguished performance of duties in warlike operations.
- Each decoration may be awarded posthumously.
- 5 The persons to whom a decoration may be awarded are:
 - (a) members of the Defence Force; and
 - (b) other persons determined by the Minister for the purposes of this regulation.
- Any subsequent award of the Distinguished Service Cross or the Distinguished Service Medal to the same person shall be made in the form of a bar to the Cross or the Medal, as the case may be.

.....

MAKING OF AWARDS

7 Awards of a decoration shall be made by the Govenor-General on the recommendation of the Minister.

MAKING OF IMMEDIATE AWARDS

8 An immediate award of a decoration may be made by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister.

DESIGNATIONS

- 9 (1) A person to whom the Distinguished Service Cross has been awarded is entitled to have the letters "DSC" placed after the person's name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary.
 - (2) A person to whom the Distinguished Service Medal has been awarded is entitled to have the letters "DSM" placed after the person's name on all occasions when the use of such letters is customary.
 - (3) Where a person has been awarded a bar to a decoration, the person is entitled to have placed after the letters prescribed by this Regulation in respect of that decoration the words "and Bar" or the words "and Bars", as the case may be.

DESIGN OF DECORATIONS

The design of each decoration shall be as prescribed.

WEARING OF DECORATIONS

The manner of wearing each decoration shall be as determined by the Governor-General.

REGISTRAR OF AWARDS

- 12 (1) There shall be a Registrar of Awards appointed by the Governor-General who shall maintain a Register of the names of persons to whom decorations have been awarded.
 - (2) The Registrar shall keep such other records relating to the award of decorations as the Governor-General directs.

9



CANCELLATION AND REINSTATEMENT

- 13 (1) The Governor-General may cancel an award of a decoration and may reinstate an award so cancelled.
 - (2) Where an award of a decoration is cancelled, the name of the person to whom the award was made shall be erased from the Register and the person shall return the decoration to the Registrar.
 - (3) Where an award that has been cancelled pursuant to sub-regulation (1) is reinstated, the Registrar shall restore the entry or entries in the Register that had been erased.

TABLE OF INSTRUMENTS

TITLE	DATE OF NOTIFICATION IN GAZETTE	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT	OUTLINE OF CHANGES
Letters Patent and Regulations Governing the award of the Distinguished Service Decorations (1991, No. S25)	4 February 1991	15 January 1991	
Letters Patent and Amendement of the Regulations Governing the award of the Distinguished Service Decorations (2012, No. S18)	22 February 2012	13 December 2011	Omit each mention of 'in action' and insert 'in warlike operations'.

TABLE OF AMENDMENTS

	am. = amended rep. = repealed rs. = repealed and substituted
PROVISION AFFECTED	
R.3	am. 2012 No. S18



ELIZABETH R

Commonwealth of Australia

ELIZABETH THE SECOND, by the grace of God Queen of Australia and Her Other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth:

TO ALL to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING:

WHEREAS it is desirable that there be instituted certain decorations for the purpose of recognising gallantry in action or oustanding service in warlike operations by units of the Defence Force and by units of the defence forces of other countries:

KNOW YOU that We do by these Presents institute two Australian decorations to be designated and styled, respectively, the Unit Citation for Gallantry and the Meritorious Unit Citation:

AND WE DO ordain that the award of the decorations so instituted shall be governed by the Regulations set out in the Schedule.

IN WITNESS whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

L.S.

Given under the Great Seal of Australia at Our Court at St. James's on 15 January 1991

By Her Majesty's Command,

R.J.L. HAWKE Prime Minister



SCHEDULE

UNIT CITATIONS REGULATIONS

SHORT TITLE

1 These Regulations may be cited as the Unit Citations Regulations.

INTERPRETATION

- 2 In these Regulations -
 - "citation" means:
 - (a) the Unit Citation for Gallantry; or
 - (b) the Meritorious Unit Citation;
 - "Defence Force" has the same meaning as in the Defence Act 1903;
 - "Minister" means the Minister of State for Defence;
 - "unit" means a unit or sub-unit of the Defence Force or of a defence force of another country.

CONDITIONS FOR AWARD OF CITATIONS

- 3 (1) The Unit Citation for Gallantry shall be awarded to a unit only for acts of extraordinary gallantry in action.
 - (2) The Meritorious Unit Citation shall be awarded to a unit only for sustained outstanding service in warlike operations.

FORM OF CITATIONS

- **4** Each citation shall consist of:
 - (a) a certificate of citation to the unit signed by the Governor-General; and
 - (b) insignia according to the prescribed design.

WEARING OF INSIGNIA

- 5 (1) Each person who was a member of a unit to which a citation is awarded at the time of an action, or during the period to which that citation relates, is entitled to wear the insignia of the citation on all occasions on which the wearing of such insignia is customary.
 - (2) A person, other than a person to whom sub-regulation (1) applies, who is at any time a member of a unit to which a citation has been awarded is entitled, while the person remains a member of the unit, to wear the insignia of the citation on all occasions on which the wearing of such insignia is customary.
 - (3) The manner of wearing the insignia of a citation shall be as determined by the Governor-General.

POSTHUMOUS AWARDS

6 Insignia of a citation may be awarded posthumously.

APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS TO PERSONS OTHER THAN MEMBERS OF THE DEFENCE FORCE

- 7 Where:
 - (a) a citation is awarded to the unit; and
 - (b) a person other than a member of the Defence Force was engaged in the performance of services with that unit at the time of the action, or during the period to which that citation relates;

these Regulations apply, on the determination of the Minister, to that person as if the person had been a member of the unit at that time or during the period, as the case may be.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS NOT AFFECTED

8 Award of a citation to a unit does not affect the making of awards to individual members of the unit in recognition of individual gallantry or service.



MAKING OF AWARDS

9 Awards of a citation shall be made by the Governor-General on the recommendation of the Minister.

REGISTRAR OF AWARDS

- 10 (1) There shall be a Registrar of Awards appointed by the Governor-General who shall maintain a Register of the names of the units to which citations have been awarded and of the persons to whom insignia of those citations have been issued in accordance with sub-regulation 5 (1).
 - (2) The Registrar shall keep such other records relating to the award of citations as the Governor-General directs.

CANCELLATION AND REINSTATEMENT

- 11 (1) The Governor-General may cancel the right of a person to wear the insignia of a citation and may reinstate a right so cancelled.
 - (2) Where the right of a person to wear the insignia of a citation is cancelled, the name of the person shall be erased from the Register and the person shall return the insignia to the Registrar.
 - (3) Where a right that has been cancelled pursuant to sub-regulation (1) is reinstated, the Registrar shall restore the entry or entries in the Register that had been erased.

TABLE OF INSTRUMENTS

TITLE	DATE OF NOTIFICATION IN GAZETTE	DATE OF COMMENCEMENT	OUTLINE OF CHANGES
Letters Patent and Regulations Governing the award of the Unit Citation for Gallantry and the Meritorious Unit Citation (1991, No. S25)	4 February 1991	15 January 1991	



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS

and

MERITORIOUS UNIT
CITATION

determinations



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE DECORATIONS DETERMINATIONS

I, QUENTIN ALICE BRYCE, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, acting under regulations 10 and 11 of the Distinguished Service Decorations Regulations, revoke the Distinguished Service Awards Determination made on the first day of September 2008 and determine as follows:

6 July 2012

.....

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS

DESIGN

1 The Distinguished Service Cross is a modified Maltese Cross of nickel-silver ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in nickel-silver. Each axis of the Cross measures 41 millimetres. The Cross is surmounted by a plain nickel-silver suspender bar. The obverse of the medal bears a central device of the Federation Star superimposed on a disc of flames. The reverse bears as the central device a horizontal panel 29 millimetres across and 8 millimetres high to allow for engraving of the recipient's name. The central panel is superimposed on a plain background.

MINIATURE

The miniature of the Distinguished Service Cross is a half-size replica of the Cross suspended from a minature ribbon 16 millimetres wide.

RIBBON

3 The ribbon for the Distinguished Service Cross is 32 millimetres wide and has a vertical stripe 16 millimetres wide of ochre-red flanked by 2 silver-blue stripes each 8 millimetres wide.

RIBBON BAR

4 The ribbon bar of the Distinguished Service Cross consists of a strip of full-size ribbon, 32 millimetres wide and 10 millimetres deep, with no emblem.

FURTHER AWARDS

5 Second and subsequent awards of the Distinguished Service Cross are recognised by the presentation of a nickel-silver bar 35 millimetres wide and 6 millimetres high. The bar has a central replica of the Federation Star 6 millimetres in diameter superimposed on a horizontal row of flames 32 millimetres wide. The bar is worn attached to the ribbon of the original Cross. A half-size replica of the bar is worn on the ribbon of the minature Cross. A ribbon bar emblem in the form of a Federation Star of nickel-silver 9 millimetres in diameter is worn on the ribbon bar.

LAPEL BADGE

6 The lapel badge of the Distinguished Service Cross is a replica of the Cross 10 millimetres in diameter.

WEARING

7 The Distinguished Service Cross is worn on the left breast whenever full-size orders, decorations and medals are worn. The miniature Cross is worn whenever miniatures of orders, decorations and medals are worn. The ribbon bar is to be worn at all times with service dress. The lapel badge may be worn at any time with civilian dress.

8



THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

DESIGN

The Distinguished Service Medal is a circular medal 38 millimetres in diameter of nickel-silver ensigned with the Crown of Saint Edward in nickel-silver. The Medal is surmounted by a plain nickel-silver suspender bar. The obverse of the Medal bears a Federation Star superimposed on a circle of flames. The reverse bears a horizontal panel 28 millimetres across and 8 millimetres high to allow for engraving of the recipient's name. The central panel is superimposed over a design of fluted rays of varying lengths.

MINIATURE

The miniature of the Distinguished Service Medal is a half-size replica of the Medal suspended from a miniature ribbon 16 millimetres wide.

RIBBON

10 The Distinguished Service Medal is suspended from a ribbon, 32 millimetres wide by means of a narrow nickel-silver bar. The ribbon has alternating vertical stripes of equal width, 4 of silver-blue and 3 of ochre-red.

RIBBON BAR

11 The ribbon bar for the Distinguished Service Medal consists of a strip of full-size ribbon, 32 millimetres wide and 10 millimetres deep, with no emblem.

FURTHER AWARDS

12 Second and subsequent awards are recognised by the presentation of a nickel-silver bar 35 millimetres wide and 6 millimetres high. The bar has a central replica of the Federation Star 6 millimetres in diameter superimposed on a horizontal row of flames 24 millimetres wide. The bar is worn attached to a ribbon of the original Medal. A half-size replica of the bar is worn attached to the ribbon of the miniature Medal. A ribbon bar emblem in the form of a Federation Star on a disc of nickel-silver 9 millimetres in diameter is worn on the ribbon bar.

LAPEL BADGE

13 The lapel badge of the Distinguished Service Medal is a replica of the Medal 10 millimetres in diameter.

WEARING

14 The Distinguished Service Medal is worn on the left breast whenever fullsize orders, decorations and medals are worn. The miniature Medal is worn whenever miniatures of orders, decorations and medals are worn. The ribbon bar is to be worn at all times with service dress. The lapel badge may be worn at any time with civilian dress.

THE COMMENDATION FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

DESIGN

15 The insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is a central Federation Star 7 millimetres high on a nickel-silver row of flames 22 millimetres long tapering to a height of 3 millimetres at each end. The insignia is attached to a plain ochre-red ribbon 32 millimetres wide and 90 millimetres long. The centre of the Federation Star is 19 millimetres from the bottom of the ribbon and 16 millimetres from either edge.

MINIATURE

16 The miniature of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is a half-size replica of the Commendation for Distinguished Service attached to a miniature ribbon 16 millimetres wide.

RIBBON

17 The insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is attached to a plain ochre-red ribbon 32 millimetres wide and 90 millimetres long.

RIBBON BAR

18 The ribbon bar of the Commendation for Distinguished Service consists of a strip of full size-ribbon, 32 millimetres wide and 10 millimetres deep, with a miniature of the insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service attached to the ribbon, horizontally.

LAPEL BADGE

19 The lapel badge of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is a half-size replica of the insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service.

FURTHER AWARDS

Second and subsequent awards of the Commendation for Distinguished
Service are recognised by the presentation of an additional Commendation
which is worn attached to the ribbon of the original award, above the first
Commendation. A half-size replica of the Commendation is worn attached to the
ribbon of the miniature award. A ribbon bar emblem in the form of a miniature
Commendation is attached to the ribbon bar along with previous awards.

WEARING

21 The insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is worn on the left breast whenever full-size orders, decorations and medals are worn. The miniature insignia of the Commendation for Distinguished Service is worn whenever miniatures of orders, decorations and medals are worn. The ribbon bar is to be worn at all times with service dress. The lapel badge may be worn at any time with civilian dress.



ORDER OF WEAR

22 The Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal and the Commendation for Distinguished Service are worn in accordance with The Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards as approved from time to time by The Sovereign.

Dated this sixth day of July 2012 Original Signed by Quentin Bryce GOVERNOR-GENERAL

UNIT CITATIONS DETERMINATION

I, WILLIAM GEORGE HAYDEN, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia, having received the approval of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for the designs of the Unit Citation for Gallantry and the Meritorious Unit Citation, and acting under regulations 4 and 5 of the Unit Citation Regulations, determine as follows:

31 October 1991





A THE UNIT CITATION FOR GALLANTRY

The Unit Citation for Gallantry can be found in the Gallantry Decorations booklet.

B THE MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

AWARD OF MERITORIOUS UNIT CITATION

7 The Meritorious Unit Citation comprises an award of a Certificate of Citation to a unit signed by the Governor-General and insignia of the Citation worn by members of the unit.

INSIGNIA DESIGN

- 8.1 The insignia of the Citation is a rhodium plated sterling silver rectangular frame 32 millimetres wide and 15 millimetres deep surrounding a ribbon bar of old gold 28 millimetres wide and 10 millimetres deep with a design of flames emanating from the frame's outer edges to the centre.
- **8.2** A rhodium plated sterling silver Federation Star 7 millimetres in diameter is placed at the centre of the ribbon bar in accordance with paragraph 9.1.

ENTITLEMENT TO WEAR INSIGNIA

- **9.1** When a unit is awarded a Citation, each person who was a member of the unit at the time of the action for which a Citation is awarded, or during the period to which the Citation relates, is entitled to wear the Federation Star.
- **9.2** The insignia of the Citation and Federation Star may be worn by those members mentioned in paragraph 9.1 whenever full-size orders, decorations and medals are worn.
- 9.3 A person who joins the unit after the time for which a Citation has been awarded may be entitled, while the person remains a member of the unit, to wear the insignia of the Citation without the Federation Star according to the relevant Service dress regulations.

WEARING OF INSIGNIA DRESS

- 10 The Chief of Staff or the delegate of the Chief of Staff of each arm of the Defence Force may determine eligibility to wear the insignia of the Citation and its manner of wearing in accordance with:
 - (a) the custom of wearing on the left breast honours and awards instituted by The Soveriegn; and
 - (b) the relevant Service dress regulations.

.....

INSIGNIA MINIATURE

11.1 The insignia miniature is a two-thirds size replica of the insignia of the Citation surrounding a miniature ribbon bar 18 millimetres wide.

11.2 The miniature is worn in accordance with the appropriate Service dress regulations whenever miniatures of orders, decorations and medals are worn.

FURTHER AWARDS

- **12.1** Second and subsequent awards are recognised by the presentation of a further Certificate of Citation to the unit signed by the Governor-General.
- 12.2 Only one insignia of the Citation may be worn by a member.

Dated 31st October 1991 Original signed by Bill Hayden GOVERNOR-GENERAL







ADMINISTERING AUSTRALIA'S HONOURS

There are three organisations with primary responsibility for administering Australia's system of honours.

- · Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat, Government House, Canberra
- The Honours and Symbols Section, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
- · Directorate of Honours and Awards, Department of Defence

GOVERNMENT HOUSE

The Australian system of honours was introduced in 1975. At that time the Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat was established as part of the Governor-General's Office at Government House in Canberra.

The contact details for Government House, Canberra are:

Australian Honours and Awards Secretariat

Government House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Toll-free phone: 1800 552 275

Email: honours@gg.gov.au Website: www.gg.gov.au

Please visit our website for notification of changes since publication of this booklet: www.gg.gov.au.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

The Honours and Symbols Section, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet provides policy advice on the operation of the Australian honours system.

It is also responsible for community awareness campaigns so that honours are more accessible and better known to all Australians.

Email: itsanhonour@pmc.gov.au

Website: https://www.pmc.gov.au/government/its-honour

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

The Directorate of Honours and Awards of the Department of Defence provides policy advice on defence honours and awards. The Department is also responsible for administering defence awards.

Email: honoursandawards@defence.gov.au Website: http://www.defence.gov.au/medals