**JOINT TRANSITION AUTHORITY - ESTABLISHMENT**

This measure will establish a Joint Transition Authority (JTA) to better support Australian Defence Force (ADF) members and their families as they transition from military to civilian life.

**WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?**

All ADF personnel transition to civilian life at some point in their career and supporting their ongoing health and wellbeing is a priority for the Australian Government.

The Government has recognised the importance of getting the transition right for ADF members and their families. The JTA is in response to Recommendation 7.1 from the Productivity Commission report, *A Better Way to Support Veterans*, and builds on improvements made to the transition system in recent years.

Transitioning from the ADF is a significant life event and we want to make it as smooth as possible. The JTA will view the transition process from the perspective of the member and their family, preparing and supporting them for transition to civilian life. It will provide a needs-based approach and will work to ensure all transition services and support mechanisms are working together for the benefit of ADF members and their families.

The JTA will sit within the Department of Defence, partnering with the Department of Veterans’ Affairs and the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC). The authority will work closely with organisations, including ex-service organisations, which deliver transition support services.

The funding provides for the JTA to:

* improve connection of service delivery along the transition journey;
* enhance access to programs by individuals at the time they need them;
* through a whole-of-system approach, deliver a more connected transition journey for ADF members and their families, catering to their individual needs;
* identify opportunities, address gaps, integrate existing services and influence new ones as they are developed; and
* undertake stakeholder consultation to develop options for its functions and capabilities.

**WHO WILL BENEFIT?**

Approximately 6,000 ADF members who transition each year and their families, maximising their potential to contribute to the Australian community.

**DATE OF EFFECT**

Commencing in 2020.

**HOW MUCH WILL THIS COST?**

$17.7 million over the forward estimates. This comprises $10.6 million to Defence in additional funding and $7.1 million absorbed by Defence.