



Australian Government

Defence

MC24-002315

Mr Jim Hislop OAM
admin@adfra.org.au

Dear Mr Hislop,

Thank you for your email of 28 August 2024 to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Minister for Defence Personnel, the Hon Matt Keogh, regarding the Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits (DFRDB) scheme. Your correspondence has been referred to me for response.

Members of the DFRDB scheme who believe they have suffered a financial detriment through the provision of erroneous information, may consider making a claim under the Scheme for Compensation for Detriment caused by Defective Administration (CDDA). Defence has tailored the claims process to help focus on the issues critical to the determination of the claim and provides members access to a case manager to assist with the process. A claim can be lodged by completing the DFRDB CDDA Application Form found at www.defence.gov.au/legal/Directorates/dsfc.asp and submitting it to dl.deldc@defence.gov.au.

Please note the Commonwealth Ombudsman's report sets out criteria (Appendix F of the report) which should be considered prior to lodging a claim for CDDA. The report can be found at www.ombudsman.gov.au/complaints/defence-force-complaints/defence-force-retirement-and-death-benefits-dfrdb.

I acknowledge the concerns raised by Australian Defence Force Retirees Association Inc. (ADFRA). The Australian Government considers the DFRDB scheme to be operating in the manner intended. As such, there are no plans to make further changes or conduct further reviews of the scheme at this time.

Thank you for taking the time to write. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fiona McSpeerin'.

Fiona McSpeerin
First Assistant Secretary
People Policy and Development
Defence People Group

17 September 2024