

# DFRDB UPDATE – MAY 2022

### Federal Court Hearing – 11 May 2022

A reminder that the hearing of Clinton McKenzie's Federal Court matter has been set down for Wednesday, 11 May 2022, at 10:15 am (EST).

The hearing will be live-streamed, and we will email the link as soon as it is made available to the public on the previous afternoon.

We have now upgraded our email system, but we will also post the link on the ADFRA website. If you do not receive the link in time, go to <u>https://www.adfra.org/</u>, then click on <u>Federal Court Hearing - 11 May 2022</u> under LATEST NEWS.

As we learnt from the directions hearing on 11 March, the live stream won't begin until the proceedings commence. So, if there's a technical 'glitch' or another delay, you will have to wait until the stream starts.

#### **Federal Election**

We sent these <u>questions</u> to the leaders of the major Political Parties.

## **ADSO Policy Objectives**

The Alliance of Defence Service Organizations (ADSO) circulated these <u>Policy Objectives</u> for the Government to consider and agree to during the next Parliament of Australia.

We had submitted these <u>Recommended Changes</u> to ADSO regarding the policy objectives related to DFRDB. But without consulting their member Organizations, or the members of those Organizations, the ADSO leadership retained what the Defence Force Welfare Association first put forward several years ago.

There is still no consideration given to the very detrimental effect CPI linked indexation has had on all DFRDB benefits from 1976 to 2014 or the impact of excluding a significant part of DFRDB benefits from indexation.

And no explanation has been given as to why 'updating' the DFRDB Act life expectancy tables would be easier to achieve and 'be more beneficial to the greater good' than confining the reduction period to the originally legislated life expectancies. Both require legislative change, but only the latter results in an outcome consistent with the Jess Review recommendation, which is proportionate rather than permanent reduction.

#### Jim Hislop OAM

President