

**DEFENCE FORCE REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL**

**MATTER NO 12 OF 2006**

**SEPARATION ALLOWANCE**

**STATEMENT**

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) has sought changes to the provisions of Separation Allowance.

Separation Allowance is currently payable under Determination No 2000/1 made under Section 58B of the Defence Act. The purpose of the allowance is to compensate members for the effects of service related separation from their dependants and to assist with additional expenses that may be incurred as a result of the separation.

The ADF did not seek changes to the rates of the allowance but sought changes to the structure as follows:

- members who receive Seagoing Allowance, Submarine Service Allowance, Special Action Forces Allowance and Special Operations Allowance who are also categorised as Members with Dependants (Unaccompanied) are to receive the daily rate of the allowance instead of the continuous rate; and
- members who are posted to the Submarine Sea Training Group are to receive the continuous rate of the allowance, consistent with the treatment of members who are posted to the Surface Sea Training Group.

The ADF also sought the transfer of Separation Allowance to a separate Section 58H allowance.

21 December 2006

The Commonwealth supported the changes to the allowance as sought by the ADF.

Having considered the submissions of the parties we have decided that we will determine a Section 58H allowance which incorporates the changes to the provisions for payment as sought.

The date of effect for the determination shall be on and from the date of signature.

The parties should provide a draft determination to the Tribunal Secretariat by the end of January 2007.

We will publish our Reasons for Decision in due course.