

Title Update on Actions from previous Congresses

Date 21 October 2021

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Key Points

Action is being undertaken on all outstanding motions from the 2017, 2018 and 2019 Annual Congress. The following motions are open and actions being taken.

Motion	Action	Status
Motion 8 (2019)		
"That RSL NSW approach the Department of Veterans' Affairs to lobby that the Medical fraternity and its associated bodies be allowed to receive the same rate of compensation for services rendered to veterans who either possess a White Card or Gold Card as they would for persons treated under the Government's Workcover agreement"	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with Australian Medical Association (AMA)	Completed
	AMA confirmation fee schedule issue	Completed
	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with NVAC, to then be passed to ESORT	Ongoing
	Update raising sub-Branch	Not started
Motion 9 (2019)		
"That RSL NSW investigate excessive waiting time for veterans seeking psychiatric appointments"	Contact Ben Folino at Royal Australia and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) re. waiting times and DVA fee schedules	Completed
	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with NVAC, to then be passed to ESORT	Ongoing
	Raise issue of DVA fee schedules with DVA via Deputy Commissioner's Forum	Ongoing
	Update raising sub-Branch	Not started
Motion 11 (2019)		
"That RSL NSW take action to address with Government the issue of Defence pensions being included in the calculation of the gross value of ex-Defence members Self-Managed Super Funds and the imposition thereof of tax at 15% for any values above the newly set cap"	Contact ATO re. the calculation of the gross value of ex-Defence members' Self-Managed Super Funds	Completed
	Form partnership with Australian Defence Force Retirees Association (ADFRA)	Completed
	Chase ATO advice	Ongoing
	Respond to ATO	Not started
	Update raising sub-Branch	Not started
Motion 20 (2019)		
"That the Returned and Services League of Australia calls on The Hon Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister of Australia, to transfer responsibility for the identification, protection and interpretation, of our wartime heritage along the Kokoda Trail from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA)"	Draft letter to Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on the issue.	Completed
	Await response from PM and FM on the issue	Ongoing
	Update raising sub-Branch	Not started

Motion 22 (2019)		
"That RSL NSW makes representations to the Law Society of NSW to approve Volunteer category practicing certificates for lawyers working pro bono with accredited veterans' advocacy centres and not just with community legal centres"	Draft letter for NSW Office of Veterans' Affairs (OVA)/Law Society NSW regarding the issue	Completed
	Await response from OVA	Ongoing
	Next steps TBC	Not started
Motion 35 (2018)		
"That RSL NSW make representations to the Australian Government to include former Citizen Military Forces (CMF) together with current and former Reservists in Non-Liability Health Care provisions (as detailed in Factsheet HSV109 Non-Liability Health Care)."	Contact DVA – find out what the justification for current policy is	Completed
	Contact raising SB	Ongoing
	TBC	Not started

The next steps in following up 35 (2018) motion are yet to be determined. Options include:

- Contacting the raising sub-Branch, and discussing next steps
- Contacting Defence for the information required, then pursuing the required changes through the Budget process
- Pursuing the change requested in the Motion without the information from Defence, through NVAC, ESORT and advocacy obo RSL National

Summary

There were 19 motions requiring action following the 2019 Annual Congress. Of these, 14 have been completed, with five requiring additional action before resolution.

A list of motions from the 2019 Congress is available at:

<https://assets.rslnsw.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/17082630/Motions-Annexure-A-RSL-NSW-AGM-Agenda-2019.pdf>