



**ADSO** ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS and PARTNERS

## UPDATE 31

# Cooking with Gas

Tuesday 30 July was an eventful day for our Fair Go campaign's progress to achieving its military superannuation indexation objective.



Mike Kelly announced the [Government's change in policy](#). The two best things about the announcement were that:

- Both sides of politics now officially admit that CPI indexation alone does not keep up with the cost of living over time. The Coalition admitted this in June 2010, three years ago, and it is pleasing to see the government catching up, albeit belatedly; and
- We now have a direct comparison of each major Party policy.

The worst thing about the announcement is that most DFRB/DFRDB members are still out in the cold. So are all MSBS members. Our objective is for all components of all military superannuation schemes (DFRB/DFRDB/MSBS) to be indexed by the same % and with the same frequency as the Age & Service Pensions.

The reason DFRB and DFRDB are getting all the publicity at the moment is that those are the schemes we have been able to get the political parties to make a move on. From the first announcement back in 2010 we have pushed hard to include those excluded including MSBS members. MSBS is not a second order issue for us!

But, a quarter-century since changes to CPI precipitated unfair indexation, and six years after Mr Rudd's 2007 pre-election promise, and four+ years after the discredited Matthews report was handed to the then Finance Minister, Mr Tanner, there is a flicker of light at the end of a very long tunnel and we believe its not an oncoming train.

Following Minister Kelly's announcement [the Coalition re-affirmed its commitment](#) to their existing fair indexation policy.

ADSO responded to the Government's changed policy with David Jamison's [media statement](#) and with this Pete Criss [video](#). The video explains the details of the new Labor policy and compares the promises of the two major parties. Share the video link widely with all of your contacts and do click the like button and leave a supportive comment (no matter how brief) in the comments box.

The media have been active in reporting the event in the press, and on radio and TV. Our national media spokesperson, Pete Criss, was interviewed on radio [2UE](#) Sydney, [6PR](#) Perth and [ABC Radio PM](#). On 6 PR Pete Criss gave a comprehensive analysis of the MSBS: it is a must listen to for all MSBS superannuants and contributors.

The restoration of Veterans' disability pension's parity is a major objective but the major parties seem unwilling to engage with us. An election date decision should force a statement of their policy.

You will no doubt have your own views on this latest development so why not have your say in the ADSO forum pages at [www.standto.org](http://www.standto.org) and on the ADSO facebook page here: <https://www.facebook.com/ADSOAustralia>

Our Campaign is proving to be effective. But there's more to do in the "front line" marginal electorates by:

- Direct engagement with the election candidates individually, and in open forums, to reinforce the necessity to keep their promises and to gain their support to include the DFRDB under 55s and MSBS as well as getting a commitment to move on the veteran disability pension issue; and
- Promotions to our Defence family, especially the ADF members, and the Australian people using all means especially social media.

You can help by joining your State Action Group and local electorate Action groups – [volunteer here](#)

As the election date nears the action tempo will increase. Make sure you keep up to date with latest developments by visiting the standto website regularly.

Thanks for your ongoing support.

## **The Fair Go Team**

Campaign Directors: **Ted Chitham, Alf Jaugietis**

Campaign National Spokesperson: **David Jamison**

Campaign National Media Spokesperson: **Peter Criss**

## **Note:**

The Alliance comprises the **Defence Force Welfare Association (DFWA)**; the **Naval Association of Australia (NAA)**; the **Royal Australian Regiment Corporation (RARAC)**; the **Australian Special Air Services Association (ASASA)**; and the **RAAF Association (RAAFA) with Australian Peacekeepers and Peacemakers Veterans Association (APPVA)** and **Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia (VVAA)** as partners.