



THE HON DARREN CHESTER MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP

Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts
Federal Member for Bradfield

JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

30 June 2020

\$70,000 IN FUNDING FOR ADVOCACY SERVICES IN BRADFIELD

Ex-Service Organisations (ESOs) and other veteran groups in Bradfield, which provide advocacy services to veterans and their families have received \$70,383 as part of the Government's Building Excellence in Support and Training (BEST) grants program.

Member for Bradfield, Paul Fletcher said ESOs, community organisations and other local veteran groups play a crucial role in supporting the health and welfare of the veteran community.

"The BEST grants program provides these groups with an opportunity to expand on their services to further support veterans and their families," Mr Fletcher said.

"As part of this round of BEST, funding has been provided to *Australian War Widows NSW Ltd*, which are committed to helping the veterans and their families in Bradfield," Mr Fletcher said.

"I congratulate and thank these organisations who continually support veterans and their families, and encourage veterans who may require additional assistance to reach out to them."

The BEST grants program funds a range of essential support measures from ESOs, advocates and welfare practitioners who continue to provide advice and assistance to the veteran and defence community. This round of BEST saw \$4.2 million provided nationally to support organisations.

Minister for Veterans' Affairs Darren Chester said staying connected with local ESOs and other veteran groups that provide advocacy services is vital in ensuring our veteran community is receiving the support they need.

"These organisations complement the support provided by the Department of Veterans' Affairs and show just how deeply the community is committed to putting veterans and their families first," Mr Chester said.

“At this time more than ever, advocacy services through ESOs can help our veterans and their families with their claims, entitlements and other services.”

For more information on BEST grants visit the grants page on the Department of Veterans’ Affairs website at www.dva.gov.au/grants.

ENDS

MEDIA CONTACT

Minister Chester’s office: Rachel Tharratt - 02 6277 7820

DVA Media - 02 6289 6466

Minister Fletcher’s office: Luke Bulbrook – 0405 295 442