

## Correcting the record - Ian McPhedran ADFA article 30 June 2013

The article by Ian McPhedran "Cadets' sex probe stalls" published in News Limited newspapers on Sunday 30 June contains a significant amount of speculation and in parts is factually incorrect. This article may lead the public to be misinformed about the current management of this issue.

The article claims the investigation has "hit a brick wall." In fact, ADF Investigative Service personnel are continuing to make inquiries and take statements. A total of ten ADFA Officer Cadets and Midshipmen have now been suspended and further suspensions may occur.

While the ADFIS investigation continues it is not appropriate to provide detailed comment on the nature of the conduct alleged. However there is, so far, no suggestion 20 people were involved in the off-site incident that brought this to Defence's attention. The figure of about 20 refers to the possible size of a group involved in inappropriate conduct over a period of time.

References in the article to possible penalties are speculative at this early stage in the investigation. When ADFIS has gathered the facts, decisions can be made on the most appropriate actions.

ADFA is focussed on assisting the investigation and providing appropriate support to all affected personnel.

ADFA is also focussed on continuing its cultural reform program by finalising the implementation of recommendations from part one of the Broderick Review and through the Pathway to Change initiatives.

The Defence senior leadership is strongly committed to ensuring that those who cannot meet Defence's values and standards will be held to account for their conduct.

The vast majority of ADFA Cadets and Midshipmen understand what is expected of them as future leaders of the ADF and they act accordingly.