

SENSITIVE: PERSONAL



Royal Australian Air Force

96 Wing  
Headquarters

Minute

96WG / L6359313

**SUSPENSION FROM DUTY OF MEMBER CHARGED WITH OFFENCE**Sub-section 98(1) of the *Defence Force Discipline Act* (Cth)To: **8564865 Leading Aircraftsman Christopher Adams** of Number 17 Squadron.

You, a member of the Defence Force, have been charged with a number of offences by civilian authorities against section 73 of the *Crimes Act 1900* (NSW), being sexual intercourse with a child between 16 and 18 years under special care.

You were initially suspended by me on 22 May 14. In Feb 15 you were issued with a further notice by CO 17SQN inviting you to provide me with any reasons as to why your suspension should not be continued. On 24 Feb 15 you submitted a response, followed by a further response on 26 Feb 15 that provided more detailed information about your financial circumstances.

I have considered both these responses and have paid particular attention to the effect an ongoing suspension will have on both you and your family and your current financial commitments. I note that while you have not been convicted of any criminal offence, the charges you face are serious, are of a sensitive nature and have not changed substantially in nature since my earlier decision to suspend you.

In light of all of these matters, I have determined that pursuant to sub-section 98(1) of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* (Cth), I **8161170 Group Captain Veronica Marjory Tyler**, an authorised officer for the purposes of that sub-section, hereby continue your suspension from duty.

Pursuant to sub-section 98(3) of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* (Cth) your suspension will cease if a decision is made not to proceed with the charges or on the termination of civilian court proceedings, noting that if you are convicted sub-section 99(2) allows suspension pending a decision as to termination of service.

While suspension from duty under sub-section 98(1) of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* (Cth) is normally without remuneration, having considered your response and, in particular, the detailed financial information provided by you I have determined that as required by sub-section 100(4) you are suffering, have suffered, and will continue to suffer hardship as a result of the suspension. As such, it is within my power to make a determination under sub-section 100(3) that you receive remuneration during the period of your suspension. I therefore direct that you continue to receive full remuneration during the full period of your suspension.

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I also direct that during the period of your suspension you continue to provide CO 17SQN or his appointed delegate regular updates on the progress of your court matters including court appearances and similar. You are also directed to continue to comply with any other welfare reporting requirements that have been put in place by 17SQN.



**VM Tyler**  
GPCAPT  
OC 96WG

Authorised Officer pursuant to CAF Appointment of Authorised Officers of 27 Feb 12

31 Mar 15

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