



Australian Government  
Department of Defence

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION  
STAFF-IN-CONFIDENCE

Feeney/MA13-002261

Reference: OCAF/AB14455751

MINISTERIAL SUBMISSION

Routine

Date Dept Approved:

Date Rec in Office:

Date Due:

**For Action: Senator Feeney**

For Info: Minister for Defence / Mr Snowdon

Copies to: Secretary, CDF, FASMECC,

**Subject: Allegations of unacceptable behaviour of an Australian Air Force Cadet staff member**

**Purpose:**

To inform you of allegations of unacceptable behaviour by an Australian Air Force Cadet (AAFC) Instructor that has now been reported to the NSW Police.

**Key Points:**

1. I have been made aware of allegations of an inappropriate sexual relationship between a 17 year old female Australian Air Force Cadet and an AAFC Instructor, who is also a Permanent Air Force member that took place during a Promotion Course conducted at Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Wagga in January 2013.
2. A female Cadet from Number 302 Squadron Sydney disclosed on her social media site that she had consensual sexual relations with a male AAFC Instructor. This incident apparently occurred while the female Cadet was acting as an Instructor on a promotion course. On 22 May 2013 a male Cadet from the same Squadron reported this matter to his Commanding Officer.
3. Initial investigations by the AAFC revealed the possibility that the AAFC Instructor may have had sexual relations with another 17 year old female AAFC Cadet who was also acting as an Instructor during the same promotion course.
4. As the AAFC Cadets are under the age of 18, both matters have been referred to the NSW Police for further investigation. As the female Cadets are over the age of 16, the NSW Police may need to consider whether the Cadets were deemed to be under the 'special care' and receiving instruction from the staff member in accordance with *Section 73 of The Crimes Act*.
5. Air Force will cooperate with NSW Police investigations as required. The male AAFC Instructor has been suspended from his AAFC role pending the outcome of the police investigation.
6. The parents of the two female AAFC Cadets have been informed of the allegations and support has been offered to the Cadets and their families.
7. There has not been any media interest in this matter to date.

**Recommendation:**

That you:

- i. **Note** that allegations have been made that a male AAFC Instructor had sexual relations with two 17 year old female AAFC Cadets.

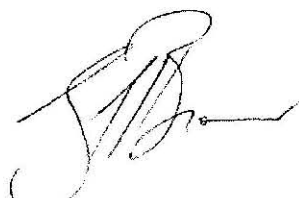
Noted / Please Discuss

Page 1 of 2  
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ii. <b>Note</b> that the matters have been referred to the NSW Police. Noted / Please Discuss iii. <b>Note</b> that male AAFC Instructor has been suspended from his AAFC role. Noted / Please Discuss	
Approved By  <b>G.C. BROWN</b> Air Marshal Chief of the Air Force /7 Jun 2013	
<b>Contact Officer:</b> Ms Jo Hanrahan	<b>Phone:</b> REDACTED
<b>Primary Addressee</b>          <div style="text-align: right;">David Feeny / /</div>	
<b>Information Addressee</b> Noted / Please Discuss    <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             Stephen Smith / /           </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             Warren Snowdon / /           </div> </div>	

**Resources:**

8. N/A.

**Consultation**

9. N/A.