



**AUSTRALIAN ARMY**  
**HEADQUARTERS AUSTRALIAN ARMY CADETS**

BP18-3-100, PO Box 7925, CANBERRA ACT 2600

R27390091

See distribution

**COMD AAC Directive No 6/2016**

**TRAINING ON AGE OF CONSENT AND SPECIAL CARE PROVISIONS**

**Reference:**

- A. VCDF Directive 06/2016 – Relationships Between Defence and Cadet Adults, and Cadets

**INTRODUCTION**

1. Reference A reiterates the rules and responsibilities that apply to ADF members, APS employees, Officers of Cadets, Instructors of Cadets and adult volunteers involved in the cadets program, relating to age of consent legislation, ‘Special Care’ provisions and the attribution of blame relating to child abuse matters. These issues **must** be widely communicated and their compliance enforced across the Australian Army Cadets.

**PURPOSE**

2. The purpose of this Directive is to assign tasks to ensure the rules and responsibilities detailed in Reference A are communicated, trained, and reflected in AAC policies and procedures.

**ASSIGNED TASKS**

3. **DCOMD HQAAC.** DCOMD HQAAC is to incorporate the guidance in Reference A in the Induction Training and Force Preservation Training for all ADF and APS members in the AAC, commencing Jan 17.

4. **COL TRG HQAAC.** COL TRG HQAAC is to incorporate the guidance in Reference A in **all** future ACS courses, commencing immediately. Training is to be delivered as follows:

- a. **Youth Development Adult Leaders Course** to include training as a component of the lesson - ‘The Law and You in the AAC’, to be delivered by a Defence Legal Officer.
- b. **Officer in Charge Activity (Grade 2) Course** to include training as a component of the lesson – ‘The Code of Conduct’, to be delivered by an ADF Officer (eg. Chief Instructor).
- c. **ACS Command and Staff Courses** to include training as a component of the lesson – ‘Understanding the AAC Legal Framework’, to be delivered by Defence Legal Officer.
- d. **Yearly ACS Mandatory Training** (to be developed) is to include training as a component of the Code of Conduct and is to foster an understanding of age of consent legislation, ‘Special Care’ provisions and the attribution of blame relating to child abuse matters.

5. **Dir Dev.** Dir Dev is to review and update all relevant AAC policies and procedures to ensure that age of consent legislation, ‘Special Care’ provisions and the attribution of blame

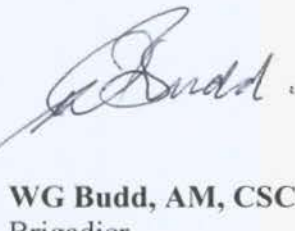
relating to child abuse matters are included and appropriately referenced. This is to be complete by NLT 12 Nov 16.

6. **SO1 OPS HQAAC.** SO1 OPS HQAAC is to coordinate the availability of a Defence Legal Officer for the delivery of training (as detailed above) until HQAAC has an established Defence Legal Officer.

### CONCLUSION

7. Child protection is my highest priority. All staff involved in the AAC program understanding and complying with the rules and responsibilities contained in Reference A is core to a child safe program.

8. You are to acknowledge receipt of this Directive.



**WG Budd, AM, CSC**  
Brigadier  
Commander Australian Army Cadets

29 September 2016

### Distribution

DCOMD  
COL TRG  
DIR DEV  
SO1 OPS

### For Information:

MAJ Nimmo (Legal Officer 2017)  
SO1 PERS