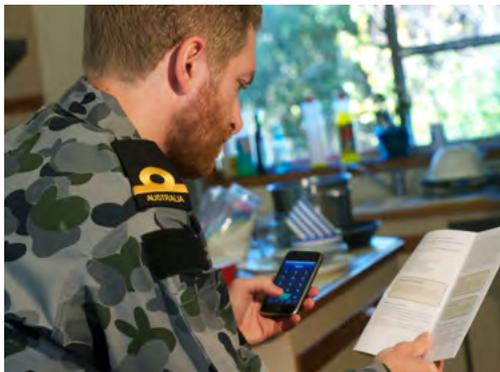




Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service  
A service founded by Vietnam veterans

# NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*The veteran and ex-service  
community representative  
committee for the Veterans  
and Veterans Families  
Counselling Service (VVCS)*



**Australian Government**

**Veterans and Veterans Families  
Counselling Service**

## What is the NAC?

The National Advisory Committee (NAC) is an independent, consultative body that provides consultation based advice to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on the effectiveness of the Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service (VVCS).

The main role of the NAC is to provide advice, guidance and consultation on the needs of the veteran and defence community and to identify opportunities for growth and guide priorities of VVCS.

The membership of the NAC includes representatives from the veteran and defence communities, medical and allied health professionals, key VVCS client groups and representatives from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

The NAC was established in 1981 and has been the veteran and defence communities voice and representative body, reporting directly to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs on VVCS matters, since its establishment.

## Have your say

The NAC has provided advice to VVCS on new group programs, services to sons and daughters of veterans, the renaming of the service and the future direction of the service.

The NAC meets three times a year at various locations around Australia. Before each meeting the NAC consults with the veteran community to get the latest input from VVCS clients and stakeholders on VVCS operations in the region.

The consultation process contributes to a better understanding of client needs and the impact of VVCS services on the community. Effective consultation processes ensure the NAC can best advise the Minister on the needs of the veteran community and ways in which these can be addressed through the VVCS.

You can provide feedback to the NAC regarding VVCS activities at both the national or local level, this may include consideration of:

- program and services delivery ideas
- gaps in services provided by the VVCS
- feedback on the quality of VVCS services you have received
- suggestions on how to improve VVCS services
- ideas for how to improve access to VVCS support.

**For more information**

**Call VVCS on 1800 011 046\*** during business hours

**visit [www.vvcs.gov.au](http://www.vvcs.gov.au)**



## Contact the NAC

To find out when the NAC is next visiting your region, talk to your local WVCS centre or visit [www.vvcs.gov.au](http://www.vvcs.gov.au)

Please contact the NAC with your feedback, ideas and suggestions which may be incorporated into the direction and development of WVCS.

You can contact the NAC by email [vvcsnac@dva.gov.au](mailto:vvcsnac@dva.gov.au)

Or post:

VVCS NAC Secretariat  
Department of Veterans' Affairs  
GPO Box 9998, Canberra ACT 2601

## About WVCS

WVCS provides free, confidential counselling and group program services to support the mental health and wellbeing of the Australian veteran and ex-service community and their families.

WVCS counsellors and staff have an understanding of veteran and military culture that assists them to deliver specialised support and care to members of this community.

## The WVCS Legacy

The Vietnam War was a difficult chapter in Australia's history. For those who served, the experience forged strong bonds and a commitment to look out for each other. This deep sense of mateship, led Vietnam veterans to lobby for a specialised counselling and support service for veterans and their families.

In 1982, the Australian Government established the Vietnam Veterans Counselling Service (WVCS). Access to WVCS has since been extended to veterans of all conflicts, their families, and other members of the ADF and ex-service community. Reflecting this, the service was renamed, WVCS – Veterans and Veterans Families Counselling Service in 2007.

WVCS is the legacy of Australia's Vietnam veterans. They have ensured that future generations of serving men and women will have access to specialised mental health and wellbeing support.

## Contact WVCS

### Call 1800 011 046\*

DURING BUSINESS HOURS – connects to the nearest WVCS centre.

AFTER BUSINESS HOURS – connect with Veterans Line, the WVCS after-hours telephone counselling service.

\* Free local call. Calls from pay phones and some mobiles may incur charges.

## Visit [www.vvcs.gov.au](http://www.vvcs.gov.au)

# VVCS



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