



## The Hon Darren Chester MP

Minister for Veterans and Defence Personnel

MC19-003370

19 SEP 2019

Mayor David O'Loughlin  
President  
Australian Local Government Association  
8 Geils Court  
DEAKIN ACT 2600

Dear Mayor O'Loughlin

Thank you for your correspondence of 14 August 2019 seeking financial support from the Australian Government for Anzac Day commemorations held in local government areas across Australia.

The Government is responsible for national Anzac Day commemorations at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. Additional commemorations are also held in various locations including dawn services at Anzac Cove in Gallipoli in Turkey, the Australian National Memorial near Villers-Bretonneux in France, Hellfire Pass in Thailand, Sandakan in Malaysia, and Bomana and Isurava in Papua New Guinea.

Local Anzac Day services across Australia are predominantly organised and run by the local RSL or other ex-service organisations (ESO's). Any costs relating to traffic management issues are imposed by state and local authorities in accordance with the requirements of state legislation.

Accordingly, any concerns relating to traffic management are appropriately a matter for the relevant state or territory should be addressed to the Minister responsible for Veterans' Affairs in each jurisdiction.

I am advised that local government authorities have some discretion regarding the matters you raise. With this in mind, I encourage local government authorities to work with their respective RSL branches and sub branches to make arrangements that minimise the financial impact on ESO's.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D. Chester', written over a blue circular stamp.

**DARREN CHESTER**