



Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 02 of 2026, Military Factor Framework – Special Forces Operators

The Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal, make this Determination under section 58H of the *Defence Act 1903*. It relates to Matter No. 9 of 2023 – Special Forces Salary Structure.

Dated: 11 March 2026

Bernadette O'Neill

President

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Andrea Lester

Member

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Major General Gerard Fogarty, AO (Retd)

Member

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1 Name

1. This Determination is the Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 02 of 2026.
2. This Determination may also be cited as DFRT Determination No. 02 of 2026.

2 Commencement

Each provision of this instrument specified in column 1 of the table commences, or is taken to have commenced, in accordance with column 2 of the table. Any other statement in column 2 has effect according to its terms.

Commencement information	
Column 1	Column 2
Provisions	Commencement
1. The whole of this instrument	On date of signature.

Note: This table relates only to the provisions of this instrument as originally made. It will not be amended to deal with any later amendments of this instrument.

3 Authority

This instrument is made under section 58H of the *Defence Act 1903*.

4 Schedules

Each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Definitions amendments

DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024, Military Factor Framework

1 Section B.2.1 (definition of Special Forces operator position)

Omit “the employment category of Strike and Recovery, Special Reconnaissance, Special Warfare, or Tactical Assault Group clearance diver.”, substitute “one of the following employment categories.

- a. Combat Controller.
- b. Combat Controller Officer.
- c. Special Reconnaissance.
- d. Special Warfare.
- e. Strike and Recovery.
- f. Tactical Assault Group Clearance Diver.
- g. Tactical Assault Group Mine Clearance Diver.

Schedule 2—Transitional provisions

1 Transitional benefit

1. This section applies to a member who was in one of the following between the commencement of DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024 and the commencement of this Determination.
 - a. Combat Controller.
 - b. Combat Controller Officer.
2. The member is eligible for a payment that is the difference between the amount they received under DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024 and the amount they would have been paid had this Determination applied from the commencement of DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal Determination No. 02 of 2026, Military Factor Framework – Special Forces Operators

This Determination amends Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal (DFRT) Determination No. 6 of 2024, Military Factor Framework, made under section 58H of the Defence Act 1903 (the Act) and in accordance with subsection 33(3) of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* (AI Act). The Principal Determination sets out provisions dealing with salary for members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF).

The purpose of this Determination is to expand the definition of Special Forces operator position in DFRT determination No. 6 of 2024 to include combat controllers and combat controller officers. In accordance with Matter 9 of 2023, Special Forces Salary Structure, combat controllers and combat controller officers were to be remunerated in the manner as other Special Forces members. This amendment implements that decision in the Military Factor Framework.

Section 1 of this Determination sets out the manner in which this Determination may be cited.

Section 2 of this Determination provides that the Determination commences on the day of signature.

Section 3 provides that this instrument has authority under section 58H of the *Defence Act 1903*.

Section 4 provides that each instrument that is specified in a Schedule to this instrument is amended or repealed as set out in the applicable items in the Schedule concerned, and any other item in a Schedule to this instrument has effect according to its terms.

Schedule 1—Definitions amendments

Items 1 amends the definition of Special Forces operation position in section B.2.1 of the Principal Determination. The definition is expanded to include tactical assault group mine clearance divers, combat controller and combat controller officer in the class of employment categories.

Schedule 2—Transitional provisions

Clause 1 applies to members who were in the combat controller or combat controller officer employment category at any time between the commencement of DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024 and the commencement of this Determination. The clause provides these members with a payment that is the difference between what they received under DFRT Determination No. 6 of 2024 during that period and what they would have received had this Determination been in force at the time.

Section 58H
Defence Act 1903