

[Lieutenant General Simon Stuart, AO, DSC](#)
CHIEF OF ARMY

[Warrant Officer Kim Felmingham, NSC, OAM](#)
REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR – ARMY

[Professor Peter Dean, PhD](#)
DIRECTOR FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENCE, UNITED STATES STUDIES CENTRE,
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[Tim Fountaine](#)
SENIOR PARTNER, MCKINSEY & COMPANY

[Commodore Darron Kavanagh, AM, CSC, RAN](#)
DIRECTOR GENERAL WARFARE INNOVATION NAVY

[Colonel Lauren Sanders, CSC, PhD](#)
SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW TC BEIRNE SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF
QUEENSLAND

[Professor Emily Hilder](#)
INTERIM HEAD, ADVANCED STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES ACCELERATOR

[Steve Baxter](#)
ENTREPRENEUR AND INVESTOR

[Lieutenant General \(Retd\) Richard Nugee, CB, CVO, CBE](#)
NON-EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR THE DEFENCE SAFETY AND
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[Kate Louis](#)
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GROUP HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICER, BHP

[Linda Dawson](#)
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL - INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

Lieutenant General Simon Stuart, AO, DSC

CHIEF OF ARMY



Lieutenant General Stuart assumed command of the Australian Army on 02 July 2022.

Enlisting as a soldier in 1987, Lieutenant General Stuart was commissioned into the Royal Australian Infantry Corps in 1990. He has over thirty five years' experience across a range of leadership, operations, training and program management appointments in Australia and overseas.

Lieutenant General Stuart's regimental experience was in the 2nd/4th and 2nd Battalions, Royal Australian Regiment, culminating in command of the 8th/9th Battalion from 2008-10.

He has commanded on operations on five occasions at the company, Joint Task Force, brigade and force levels in East Timor, Afghanistan and Egypt/Israel respectively. His early career included significant training experience, while his staff appointments have largely been in capability development. He has worked in joint, whole of government, international and multi-national environments for most of the past 20 years. Most recently, Lieutenant General Stuart has fulfilled the role of Head of Land Capability in Army Headquarters after a three year deployment in command of the Multinational Force & Observers from 2017-19.

Lieutenant General Stuart is a graduate of the Royal Military College – Duntroon (1990), the United Kingdom's Joint Services Command and Staff College (2003), the United States Army War College (2015) and the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program (2022). He holds a Bachelor's Degree from the University of New England and Masters' degrees in Project Management (UNSW), Arts - Defence Studies (Kings College, London) and Strategy (US Army War College).

Lieutenant General Stuart's honours and awards include his appointment as Member of the Order of Australia (2011), the Distinguished Service Cross (2014) and advancement to Officer of the Order of Australia (2020). He has also received a number of foreign awards, including those from the United States, Timor Leste, Columbia, Uruguay, Czech Republic and Japan.

Lieutenant General Stuart and his wife Katy are from Perth, Western Australia. They have two teenage children and a labrador retriever. He is also the patron for the Army Drone Racing Team.

Warrant Officer Kim Felmingham, NSC, OAM

REGIMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR – ARMY



On 01 July 2022, Warrant Officer Kim Felmingham commenced her appointment as the 12th Regimental Sergeant Major - Army.

Warrant Officer Felmingham enlisted in the Australian Regular Army in July 1986 and became a Medical Attendant in 1990. She has had a balance of trade, instructional, regimental and operational appointments throughout her career. Her first appointment as a Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) was in 2006. Her subsequent appointments have provided her the opportunity to gain extensive experience from the tactical to strategic levels of command. She has extensive all-corps training experience due to instructing at each level of Army's All Corps Soldier Training Continuum from the

Recruit to the Regimental Sergeant Majors Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Major Course. Warrant Officer Felmingham has deployed on operations at every rank level from Junior Non Commissioned Officer to Warrant Officer.

Warrant Officer Felmingham has had significant professional development opportunities across combat and combat service support environments. These opportunities include attendance at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy in 2007, Faculty Advisor, Military Operations Division in 2008, RSM JTF 633 in 2013 and attendance at multiple international seminars and leadership conferences in the United Kingdom, Canada, South Korea and the United States of America. In 2018, Warrant Officer Felmingham attended KEYSTONE at the National Defence University, Washington DC which provided her development in current United States of America strategic interests, Department of Defence capability, foreign policy and military strategy.

Warrant Officer Felmingham has been awarded the Nursing Service Cross in 2000, the United States of America Meritorious Service Medal in 2010 and the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2018. On 14 June 2023, Warrant Officer Felmingham was inducted into the International Military Student Hall of Fame at the United States Army Non-Commissioned Officer Leadership Centre of Excellence Sergeants Major Academy, for her proven leadership and significant contribution to Australia's Defence Force.

A career highlight for Warrant Officer Felmingham was her appointment as the Regimental Sergeant Major, 2nd Division. This appointment provided her the opportunity to be an ambassador for reform and change due to the division's unique, integrated, diverse and dispersed workforce.

Warrant Officer Felmingham is a Director on the Board of the Army Amenities Fund which provides amenities and related services to Army members and their families.

Professor Peter Dean, PhD

DIRECTOR FOREIGN POLICY AND DEFENCE, UNITED STATES STUDIES CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY



Professor Peter J. Dean PhD SFHEA is the Director, Foreign Policy and Defence at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney.

Professor Dean has an extensive background in military and defence studies. An international award-winning author he has authored numerous books, policy papers and articles on the US-Australian alliance, Australian defence policy, military operations and regional security. He is a member of numerous international Editorial Boards including the Australian Army Journal.

Professor Dean has been a Fulbright Fellow and Endeavour Research Scholar, was the University of Western Australia's (UWA) first Chair of Defence Studies and the inaugural director of the UWA Defence and Security Institute and held a number of senior roles at the Australian National University's College of Asia and the Pacific and Strategic and Defence Studies Centre.

Professor Dean was Co-Lead of the 2023 Defence Strategic Review (DSR) Secretariat where he served as senior advisor and a principal author for the Independent Leads, His Excellency Professor the Hon. Stephen Smith and Air Chief Marshal Sir Angus Houston AK AC AFC (Retd).

Tim Fountaine

SENIOR PARTNER, MCKINSEY & COMPANY



Tim is a Senior Partner in McKinsey & Company's Sydney office.

Tim helps private and public organizations adapt to a world increasingly shaped by AI and digital technology.

Tim's expertise in digital, data, and AI comes from more than 15 years working with institutions in Australia, Asia, America, and Europe, in addition to the experience gained through his PhD in neuroscience from the University of Oxford. His work spans industries as diverse as financial services, retail, mining, technology, defence, and healthcare. He also chairs the board of the Digital Sciences Initiative at the University of Sydney.

Tim's perspectives have been published multiple times in Harvard Business Review, and his article "Building the AI-Powered Organization" featured in the magazine's special edition, 10 Must Reads on Leading Digital Transformation.

Commodore Darron Kavanagh, AM, CSC, RAN

DIRECTOR GENERAL WARFARE INNOVATION NAVY



Commodore Darron Kavanagh leads the RAN's Warfare Innovation Navy (WIN) Branch whose mission is Navy's agent of disruptive innovation to maximise early adoption of asymmetric warfighting capabilities for joint integrated effects. WIN Branch is involved in the development of Combat Ready Prototypes leveraging artificial intelligence, robotics and autonomous systems, modelling and simulation and other emerging technologies. DGWIN reports to RADM Stephen Hughes – Head Navy Capability.

Darron has served at sea on numerous major surface combatants as a Weapons Electrical Engineering Officer and his staff appointments have primarily been involved in the development and realisation of innovative capability by leveraging technology.

Colonel Lauren Sanders, CSC, PhD

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW TC BEIRNE SCHOOL OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND



Colonel Lauren Sanders, PhD, CSC, has served in the ADF for 23 years across a variety of strategic legal advisory positions, also having deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Timor Leste, and on HADR and domestic counter-terrorism operations.

Now a Reservist, she is a Senior Research Fellow with The University of Queensland Law and Future of War project, where she focuses upon international law and export controls impacting emerging and disruptive technologies.

Her doctoral studies were in international criminal law accountability measures, and her expertise is in the practice of international humanitarian law including advising on the accreditation and use of new and novel weapons technology.

She is also the Managing Director of a law firm, which specialises in international law relevant to the weapon review of new weapons, means and methods of warfare including autonomous and AI-enhanced systems.

Professor Emily Hilder

INTERIM HEAD, ADVANCED STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES ACCELERATOR



As Interim Head of the Advanced Strategic Capabilities Accelerator (ASCA), Professor Hilder is leading the establishment of ASCA, the Defence Accelerator, which will accelerate the development and transition into service of disruptive solutions to priority defence challenges at the pace and scale required to deliver advantage to our military.

Emily joined Defence as Chief Maritime in DSTG in November 2020, and held the role of Chief Platforms from July 2022 to April 2023. Prior to joining Defence she was Director of the Future Industries Institute (FI) and Deputy Director of the ARC

Research Hub for integrated devices for end-user analysis at low levels (IDEAL) at University of South Australia.

Steve Baxter

ENTREPRENEUR AND INVESTOR



Steve Baxter is a proud Queenslander, born in the remote town of Cloncurry and raised in Emerald in the State's central highlands. He left school at 15 and joined the Army, enlisting in its apprenticeship program. There, he became a technician working in the field of electronics, telecoms and guided weapon systems.

In 1994, at the age of 23, Steve launched his first start-up, the pioneering internet service provider SE Net, from his spare room. Servicing more than 35,000 customers, SE Net was eventually acquired by Ozemail/UUNet under the stewardship of its founding Director and Former Prime Minister, Malcolm Turnbull.

In 2001, Steve launched his second start-up, PIPE Networks, in 2005, selling eight years later to the TPG Group for \$373 million. Steve then spent a year working with Google in California, leading a project to deliver high-speed telecommunications systems across North America.

He was a Shark on Channel 10's Shark Tank Australia for its first four seasons, and was appointed 'Queensland's Chief Entrepreneur' in 2018.

Steve is now the Co-founder and Executive Chairman of TEN13, Australia's leading tech startup investment platform, and Founder and Lead Investor with Beaten Zone Venture Partners which is dedicated to early stage investments in Australian sovereign legal defence technology.

Lieutenant General (Retd) Richard Nugee, CB, CVO, CBE

NON-EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR THE DEFENCE SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (UK)



General Richard Nugee has earned international recognition for bringing the implications of Climate Change and Sustainability to the Defence and National Security sectors. After a full operational career in the British Army, as his final role he wrote a Review of Defence's approach to Climate Change and Sustainability. He is now the Non Executive Director for Climate Change and Net Zero for the Ministry of Defence. He has expanded this policy interest into delivery, as the Chair, Director and Advisor of a number of renewable energy and environmental sustainability start-ups.

He is CEO of a medical research charity, The Scar Free Foundation, Chair of the Royal NAAFI Board, Director of his own Strategic Advisory Company, a strategic advisor to a number of consultancies and organisations, including the Hague Centre for Strategic Studies, Oxford University's Climate Change (In)Security Project and a climate-focused venture capitalist group.

Vice Admiral David Johnston AC, RAN

VICE CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCE



Vice Admiral Johnston joined the Royal Australian Naval College as a junior entry Cadet Midshipman in 1978. Graduating as a seaman officer in 1982, he later specialised as a Principal Warfare Officer.

Appointed as the Vice Chief of the Defence Force on 07 July 2018, he has extensive experience across a range of leadership, maritime and joint operations, training and capability management appointments in Australia and overseas.

Vice Admiral Johnston's senior command appointments include Commanding Officer of HMAS Adelaide (FFG 01) and HMAS Newcastle (FFG 06), Commander Border Protection Command ahead of his appointment as Chief of Joint Operations Command in 2014. His operational experience includes Operation RELEX (2002), Operation QUICKSTEP to Fiji (2006) and Operation SLIPPER (2010).

Vice Admiral Johnston's honours and awards include his appointment as Member of the Order of Australia (2012), advancement to Officer of the Order of Australia (2018) and Companion of the Order of Australia (2022) 'for eminent service to the Australian Defence Force through strategic stewardship and capability engagement.'

Lieutenant General Natasha Fox, AM, CSC

CHIEF OF PERSONNEL



LTGEN Natasha Fox entered the ADFA in 1988 and graduated from the RMC in 1991. Her early appointments included logistics specialising in combat supplies and logistics planning, and training positions culminating with her being the CO/CI at the ADFA for which she received a Conspicuous Service Cross.

LTGEN Fox has been employed across the ADF in Forces Command, Joint Logistics Command, Special Operations Command, Training Command - Army, Defence People Group and Army Headquarters. She has deployed to Lebanon, Syria, and Israel and was the Chief of Staff for Joint Task Force 633 in the

Middle East. In 2023, LTGEN Fox was appointed an Officer (AO) of the Order of Australia for her service as Head People Capability and Deputy Chief of Army.

LTGEN Fox is a graduate of the Australian Command and Staff College, and the Defence and Strategic Studies Course. She has completed a Master of Business Administration, Master of Politics and Policy, and Master of Management in Defence Studies. She is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Lee Kwan Yew School of Public Policy, The Wharton School, and The Said Business School.

LTGEN Fox was appointed Chief of Personnel on 5th June 2023.

Lieutenant General John Frewen, AO, DSC

CHIEF OF JOINT CAPABILITIES



John Frewen is one of Australia's most senior and experienced defence leaders. His current appointment as the ADF's Chief of Joint Capabilities encompasses the ADF space and cyber domains, ICT operations, strategic effects, logistics and civil military cooperation.

He previously led the Australian Government's National COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, achieving COVID-19 vaccination rates among the world's highest. LTGEN Frewen's four decades of military service has included command of all Australian forces deployed to the Middle East Area of Operations (2017); command of

the multinational intervention force, RAMSI, in Solomon Islands (2003); and operational deployments to Afghanistan and Rwanda.

He is a distinguished graduate of the US Army War College, and has served as the Principal Deputy Director-General with the Australian Signals Directorate. In January 2023 he was made an Officer in the Order of Australia (AO) for national leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vice Admiral Mark Hammond AO, RAN

CHIEF OF NAVY



Vice Admiral Mark Hammond joined the Royal Australian Navy in 1986 as an Electronics Technician, before commissioning as a Naval Officer in 1988. Hammond served in Australia's Oberon and Collins Class submarines and also gained experience in British, Dutch, French, and U.S. submarines. Hammond's Command of HMAS Farncomb included submarine operations across the Indo-Pacific. Subsequent, notable shore postings include Assistant Naval Attaché in Washington DC, Chief of Staff to CDF, Director General Maritime Operations and Liaison Officer to the Chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff.

In 2018 Hammond was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for exceptional service. Hammond was then selected as Deputy Chief of Navy in 2018 and Commander Australian Fleet in 2020. Vice Admiral Hammond assumed Command as Chief of Navy on 7 July 2022. In 2023 Hammond was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for distinguished service in senior command roles. He is the first RAN Recruit School and ADFA graduate to do so, and only the second submarine Commanding Officer to be appointed to the role. Vice Admiral Hammond holds a Bachelor of Science, Masters in Management and Masters in Maritime Studies, and is a graduate of the Harvard Business School Advanced Management Program.

Air Vice-Marshal Glen Braz, AM, CSC, DSM

AIR COMMANDER AUSTRALIA



Air Vice-Marshal Glen Braz joined the Royal Australian Air Force in 1987, graduated the Australian Defence Force Academy and went on to complete pilot training in 1991.

In 1997 he became a flying instructor before undertaking the F-111 Fighter Combat Instructor Course and being promoted to Flight Commander. In 2006, Air Vice-Marshal Braz was appointed Deputy Director Air[1]Land Integration, served as Deputy Director of the Super Hornet Transition Team then as Commanding Officer of No. 1 Squadron.

In 2011, he was posted to the United States to serve as Air Staff Officer Plans and Operations, followed by the role of Director EA-18G Growler Transition. He then deployed and served as Commander Australian Air Task Group – Middle East Region in 2015. On return to Australia, he assumed command of No. 82 Wing at RAAF Base Amberley.

As commander of Air Force Training Group, Air Vice-Marshal Braz oversaw significant functional and training reforms. In December 2019 he assumed the position of Director General Military Strategic Commitments and, and was promoted to Air Vice-Marshal in July 2020. In January 2023, Air Vice-Marshal Braz was appointed as Deputy Chief of Air Force, and took up his current role as Air Commander Australia in July 2023.

Dr Rebecca Jackson

THE JACKSON COMPANY



Dr Bec Jackson's middle name is literally "Joy" and she aspires to spread as much of it as possible by empowering her clients to live their best lives, with joy, purpose and meaning.

She uses the science of psychology in practical ways together with her lived organisational experience in the government and military sector, to support clients in increasing engagement and meaning in their personal and professional lives.

A demonstrated subject matter expert on professional leadership and development, a visiting fellow at the Australian War College, monthly contributor to The Leadership Review magazine,

published author and speaker, Dr. Bec Jackson is highly regarded for her contributions in the fields of psychology, mental health, leadership and professional development.

From her meditation and psychology training and research, she uses the science of well-being, research-based assessments and interventions to bring about greater fulfilment in the lives of those she coaches. Her extensive experience as a psychological clinician means she has a deep professional understanding of clients with co-morbid therapy needs and can provide advice and guidance on additional services that would benefit them outside the coaching space.

Gaston Carrion

MANAGING DIRECTOR, STRATEGY AND CONSULTING, TALENT AND ORGANISATION GROWTH MARKETS AND ASIA PACIFIC LEAD, ACCENTURE



Gaston is a Managing Director based in Australia, leading the Talent and Organisation practice across Africa, Middle East and Asia Pacific. Gaston also leads the Global Employee Experience offering. Gaston provides strategic advisory to global clients in the Human Capital and HR agendas.

Gaston has more than 20 years' experience in Human Resources and supporting strategic and large business transformation programs. He holds a Global Executive MBA from the London Business School, Columbia Business School and Hong Kong University.

His recent studies and projects are related to the Workforce of the future and future of HR trends. He is currently supporting some of our global clients in their transition to new HR models and enterprise digital transformation. Gaston is passionate about the topics of Future of Work and Transformation of the industry.

Amanda Holt

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SYPAQ



Amanda holds tertiary qualifications in Aerospace Engineering and Business, complemented by post-graduate studies in Remote Sensing, Systems and Software Engineering, and has recently completed the Senior Executive MBA at Melbourne Business School.

In 2015, Amanda was appointed as SYPAQ's Chief Executive Officer, having joined the business back in 2007. SYPAQ employs almost 200 engineering and technical personnel across Australia, delivering specialist services in the fields of C4ISREW, trusted autonomous systems, military communications, artificial intelligence, and DevSecOps platforms.

Amanda is a Fellow and Engineering Executive of Engineers Australia, a member of Defence Council of Victoria, and a member of the RMIT Aerospace Engineering Advisory Board.

Kieren Perkins, OAM

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION



Kieren Perkins OAM is regarded as one of the world's greatest distance swimmers having won four Olympic medals. Following his retirement from swimming in 2000, Mr Perkins transferred his knowledge and experience to build a successful career across the consulting and banking sectors, including 10 years at NAB before taking on the Chief Executive Officer role at Australia's Unity's retail banking unit in 2021.

Having seen sport from all angles over four decades, Mr Perkins is passionate about the whole sports sector, from grassroots to high performance. Mr Perkins was President of Swimming Australia until he took on the role of Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Sports Commission in March 2022. His focus in this role is to ensure sport has a place for everyone and delivers results that make Australia proud.

Marni Poropat

MANAGING DIRECTOR, GLOBAL DEFENCE TALENT AND WORKFORCE LEAD, ACCENTURE



Marni Poropat is Accenture's Managing Director, Global Defence Talent and Workforce Lead. She partners with Accenture's Defence and Defence Industry clients to design for people, to create an authentic Human Experience for the needs of your workforce and workplace. To gain value from your people technology and ultimately a future of work that inspires people and their organisations to be able to focus on their reason for being.

Marni is committed in focussing on people at the centre of the workforce experience, enabled by great technology, data insights, AI to provide an experience that puts people at the centre of what we are designing for. Marni has 9 years of experience in Accenture, with many roles across our government business. Prior to that Marni was the Global Product Manager in Human Capital Management & People Analytics.

Brigadier Nerolie McDonald

DIRECTOR GENERAL PACIFIC AND TIMOR-LESTE



Brigadier McDonald joined the Australian Regular Army in 1992, attending the Australian Defence Force Academy. She graduated from the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1995 into the Intelligence Corps. Over her career, Brigadier McDonald has been employed in a wide variety of tactical, operational and strategic level intelligence roles within land, training and joint environments. She has also completed international policy, capability, strategy, operations and command postings.

Brigadier McDonald is currently Director-General Pacific and Timor-Leste Branch within Defence's Pacific Division. She was the Chief of Defence Force Liaison Officer to the United States Central Command (2016); Australian Defence Attache to Vietnam and Laos (2017-2019); and Vice Director for Intelligence at United States Indo-Pacific Command (2020-2021).

Her operational deployments include: Op TANAGER - East Timor (2002); Op CATALYST - Iraq (2005); Op SLIPPER - Afghanistan (2009/10); and Op MAZURKA - Sinai, Egypt (2014) as Commander of the Australia Contingent.

Brigadier McDonald has a Bachelor of Arts Honours (Economics) and a Master of Arts (Strategy and Policy) from the University of New South Wales. She is also a Vietnamese linguist.

Brigadier McDonald has a young daughter and when not spending time with family and friends, enjoys reading, hiking and perfecting her golf swing.

Professor John Blaxland

PROFESSOR OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY & INTELLIGENCE STUDIES



John Blaxland is Professor of International Security and Intelligence Studies in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs, College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University. He has been appointed Director of the ANU North America Liaison Office from September 2023. He is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales. He has previously been a Chief Intelligence Staff Officer at HQ Joint Operations Command, defence attaché to Thailand and Myanmar, Head of SDSC and Director of the ANU Southeast Asia Institute.

His more recent books include *Revealing Secrets: An Unofficial History of Australian Signals Intelligence and the Advent of Cyber*, *The US-Thai Alliance and Asian International Relations*, (Routledge, 2021), *Niche Wars: Australia in Afghanistan and Iraq* (ANU Press, 2020), *In From the Cold: Reflections on Australia's Korean War, 1950-1953*, (ANU Press, 2020).

Air Marshal (Ret'd) Geoff Brown, AO

CHAIRMAN, SIR RICHARD WILLIAMS FOUNDATIONS



Air Marshal (Ret'd) Geoff Brown AO retired as Chief of the Royal Australian Air Force in 2015. Over his 35-year career, he commanded at all levels and flew Chinooks, F-111s and F/A-18s, also serving as a flying instructor and in the Roulettes. He also deployed as operational commander for RAAF assets on Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He holds a BEng (Mech), a Master of Arts (Strategic Studies), and is a Fellow of both the Institute of Engineering Australia and the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Since leaving RAAF, he has worked as Director of Lockheed Martin (Australia), Electro Optic Systems, GCB Stratos Consulting, and as a Director on the Governing Council for the Temora Air Museum. He has also served as Chairman of the ACT Defence and Industry Board, the Sir Richard Williams Foundation, and the Advisory Board of CAE Asia Pacific and Middle East. Currently, he mentors in Leadership and Strategic Studies at the Australian Defence College.

His honours include appointment as an Officer in the Order of Australia, and recipient of the United States Legion of Merit Medal and Singapore Meritorious Service Medal.

Kate Louis

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND HEAD OF DEFENCE AND INDUSTRY POLICY,
AI GROUP



Kate joined the Australian Industry Group in 2017 following an extensive career in the Department of Defence.

Kate joined the Department of Defence as a graduate in 1997. She has extensive experience with Defence capability development, acquisition, contestability and industry policy. Her final position with Defence was First Assistant Secretary Defence Industry Policy Division where Kate was responsible for the effective implementation of the Government's approach to Defence Industry policy.

As the Executive Director of the Ai Group Defence Council, Kate has the privilege of working with industry and Defence to provide trusted policy advice and help build the Defence and industry partnership.

Kate has a Bachelor of Laws (1st Class Honours) and Bachelor of Arts from the Australian National University.

Elsabe Muller

GROUP HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT OFFICER, BHP



Elsabe Muller is the Group HSE Officer who leads the team responsible for the strategic direction of HSE for the company.

Elsabe has almost 30 years of international experience in the resources industry, working across six commodities and four continents; with almost 28 years working at BHP across Marketing, as well as the Iron Ore, Nickel and Coal businesses.

She holds a Bachelor of Science from North West University, South Africa, and an MBA from Heriot Watt University (Edinburgh Business School).

Elsabe commenced at BHP in 1994 and has held various roles during this time including: Asset President for BMC and NSW Energy Coal mines; General Manager at Jumblebar Mine WAIO, General Manager of Integrated Production and Remote Operations WAIO, General Manager Non-Process Infrastructure WAIO, General Manager Marketing and Group Manager Business Optimisation/Business Planning for the global Nickel business.

In August 2022, Elsabe was appointed as the Group HSE Officer for BHP based in Perth.

Linda Dawson

DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL - INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION



Linda Dawson is a senior executive with more than 25 years' experience working in large Australian and multinational organisations across the resources and utilities sectors. Over Linda's career she has led corporate services, community development, human resources, health safety and environment, corporate affairs and operational functions. Linda currently works for the Department of Jobs Tourism Science and Innovation in the Western Australian Government, as Deputy Director General Industry Science Innovation.

Linda has a strong belief in equality and respect for all in society, learning from our First Nations people, empowering women and giving back to the community. She has been a Chair of the MCA Indigenous Community of Practice, mentor with WIMWA and a past Chair of the CMEWA Pilbara Regional Council.

Linda is currently a Board Member of Workpower, Vice Chairperson of Midland Women's Health Care Place and a Member of the Sir Charles Gardiner and Osborne Park Hospital Human Research Ethics Committee.

She holds a Masters of Education and Bachelor of Physical Education from the University of Western Australia, is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Certified Professional of the Australian Human Resource Institute and Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management.