

27 July 2017

Senior Advisor
Individuals and Indirect Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

**RE: Tax Deductible Gift Recipient Reform Opportunities
Discussion paper June 2017**

Mates4Mates is a national charity supporting current and ex-serving Australia Defence Force members (“Mates”) and their families, who are wounded, injured, or ill as a result of their service. We (like many), rely on the philanthropic support of organisations and the general public to deliver our much needed services to veterans and their families, and appreciate the opportunity to make comment on potential reforms.

Official Comment

Mates4Mates welcomes the review of the Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) tax arrangements, where the intention is to further encourage philanthropy and support for the not-for-profit (NFP) sector through the tightening of transparency and accountability. We support the proposals outlined within the Discussion Paper dated 15 June 2017, which aim to simplify the application process, improve reporting and overall governance standards for DGRs, and provide valuable time and resources savings for DGR charities with respect to the regulatory compliance process.

Mates4Mates supports the proposal of DGRs going through a review over a specified period of time (e.g. five years) to ensure DGR organisations are still eligible for their DGR status. We believe this would encourage the Australian public to continue to give generously to DGRs, with a greater confidence in the integrity of the entire NFP sector. Mates4Mates would anticipate this review process once finalised, would be undertaken in a way that minimises the burden of time and resources on the DGR organisation, as part of a reform aimed at simplifying processes and reporting.

Again, Mates4Mates appreciates the opportunity to comment, and would be happy to elaborate or provide additional information if required.

Kind regards



Rick Ralph
Chairman, Mates4Mates