

Premier Jay Weatherill Minister Jack Snelling

Treasurer
Minister for State Development
Minister for the Public Sector
Minister for the Arts

Minister for Health and Ageing
Minister for Mental Health & Substance Abuse
Minister for Defence Industries
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Friday, 7 February, 2014

New chair for Defence SA Advisory Board

Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston AC AFC is the new chair of the Defence SA Advisory Board.

Premier Jay Weatherill said Air Chief Marshal Houston replaced former chair General Peter Cosgrove AC MC who has resigned and taken up the position of Governor General.

“General Cosgrove has been on the Board since its inception in 2007 and has been an outstanding advocate for South Australia’s defence industry,” Mr Weatherill said.

“It was important to replace General Cosgrove with someone of national standing and I am very pleased to announce Air Chief Marshal Houston as his replacement.

“Air Chief Marshal Houston has spent 41 years in the Australian Defence Force, including six years as its Chief between 2005 and 2011.

“He is already on the Defence SA Advisory Board and was the logical successor to General Cosgrove.

“Air Chief Marshal Houston is an outstanding leader and to have someone of his calibre as the Chair of the Board is a coup for South Australia.”

Defence Industries Minister Jack Snelling said the Board provided high-level strategic advice on how to promote the growth of defence in South Australia.

“South Australia has worked hard to become known as ‘The Defence State’ and it is important that we continue working hard to keep that mantle,” Mr Snelling said.

“We need to keep South Australia as the pre-eminent Australian state for defence presence and defence industry involvement and the Defence SA Advisory Board helps us do that.”

Air Chief Marshal Houston said he was delighted to take on this key advisory role.

“South Australia has a successful and proud history of delivering world-class defence and security projects, driven by its strong industry base,” he said.

“I look forward to working with the Government to increase South Australia’s already significant contribution to the security and defence of the nation.”

Despite having less than 10 per cent of the nation’s population, South Australia attracts around one-quarter of the nation’s defence spend. The industry employs both directly and indirectly more than 26,000 people.