



The Hon. Dr Geoff Lee MP

Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education

Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

Ref: D21/0124809/DJ

Mr Ray James OAM
State President
RSL NSW

Via email: rjames@rslnsw.org.au

Dear Mr James

I am writing to provide an update in relation to the whole-of-government planning and support for Anzac Day 2021.

As you are aware, the exemption for the CBD March remains at 10,000 participants and key messages are being developed and agreed for use by all relevant NSW Government agencies. Meetings have progressed to ensure planning for COVID safety and logistics, including support from Health, Transport, Police, Service NSW, DPC and the Office for Veterans Affairs.

While there are no limits on the number of spectators who can attend the March in the Sydney CBD, Government messaging will encourage people to attend local events and, advise those coming into the Sydney CBD as a spectator, that they will need to QR code check in on their arrival at their destination and stay socially distanced. These measures are part of the event's plans to ensure COVID-19 safety. We will also promote options to commemorate Anzac Day locally, and encourage people to contact their local RSL sub-Branch or Council to find out what commemorations will be taking place.

Given the constantly changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is important to continually refer to the [NSW Government website](#) for any updates to the current Public Health Order and exemptions.

I would also like to take this opportunity to share correspondence I have received from Minister Chester regarding the regulations concerning the appropriate use, and importance of protecting the word 'Anzac'.

I would appreciate you informing NSW RSL sub-Branches of these updates. Thank you for supporting our veterans to commemorate this important day.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Dr Geoff Lee MP

Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education

Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans



The Hon Darren Chester MP

Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Minister for Defence Personnel

MS20-000404

28 JAN 2021

The Hon Dr Geoff Lee MP
Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education
Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Minister

I am writing to you in regards to the *Protection of Word 'Anzac' Regulations 1921 (Cth)* (the Regulations), which outline how, where and when the word 'Anzac' may be used.

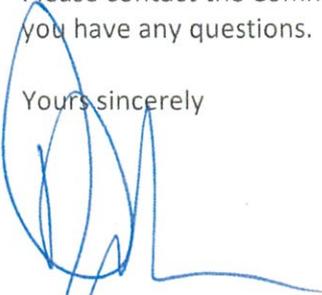
The word 'Anzac' has a unique place within Australian culture as it relates to the bravery and self-sacrifice of the Anzacs who served on the Gallipoli Peninsula. To stop misuse of the word, the Regulations were put in place to ensure it was treated with the respect and dignity it deserved. Broadly, the Regulations prevent use of the word 'Anzac' in an official or corporate manner without permission from the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. For example, this includes selling or producing goods, fundraising, exhibitions, games and sporting events.

In response to COVID-19 restrictions in place around Anzac Day 2020, Australians sought to commemorate in new and innovative ways. Whilst the intent of these initiatives was admirable, in some instances the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) received complaints from the public regarding inappropriate use of the word 'Anzac'. As veteran matters form part of your portfolio, I am therefore seeking your assistance in ensuring that your colleagues and constituents are aware of the Regulations and where permission to use the word is required. This is particularly important in the lead up to Anzac Day 2021.

The Regulations and associated guidelines are available on DVA's website at www.dva.gov.au/recognition/commemorating-all-who-served/protecting-word-anzac. To apply for permission to use the word 'Anzac', a simple application form is also available on the website. There is no cost to apply for a permit.

I thank you in advance for your support to preserve the significance of this word. Please contact the Community Engagement Team in DVA at usewordanzac@dva.gov.au if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely



DARREN CHESTER