

# HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE



**Senator the Hon John Faulkner**

Special Minister of State

Cabinet Secretary

Reference: B08/2035

Mr Mark Burgess APM  
Chief Executive Officer  
Police Federation of Australia  
Level 1  
21 Murray Crescent  
GRIFFITH ACT 2603

Dear Mr Burgess

I am writing to advise you that Her Majesty The Queen has given in-principle approval to the establishment of a new medal to recognise the long and diligent service of sworn police officers.

I am advised that in the development of this proposal the Australian Police Commissioners' Conference agreed that the medal should be named the 'National Police Service Medal' (NPSM) and should be awarded for long and diligent service to sworn police officers for 15 years' service, with clasps being awarded for each additional 10 years of service. The Commissioners also agreed that the medal should only be awarded to currently serving members who have completed a minimum of 15 years' service on or after the date of the commencement of the medal.

The government is in agreement with these criteria and proposes that the commencement date be the date of the Queen's in-principle approval and that the medal be placed immediately under the *National Medal* in the order of wearing to reflect equivalent status with that award.

Provision will also be made in the *National Medal* regulations to allow those sworn police who have insufficient service for the NPSM to aggregate sworn police service with service in *National Medal* eligible organisations for the award of the *National Medal*.

## HONOURS-IN-CONFIDENCE

In order to progress implementation I am also writing to the police commissioners to invite medal design suggestions and any further comments on the medal criteria. A response by 9 January 2009 would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Faulkner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JOHN FAULKNER

04 December 2008