

Financial Policy Partner

"As a member of the Financial Policy Directorate, I embody a commitment to learning and intellectual curiosity. My role demands agility and flexibility to adapt to evolving challenges. I am predisposed to seek a source of truth and solve problems. I demonstrate the following behaviours:



- Championing continuous learning and personal growth;
- Willingness to develop innovative solutions;
- Adaptability to dynamic and changing environments;
- Proactivity in addressing and solving complex issues;
- Promoting an understanding of shared objectives to stakeholders: and
- Upholding professionalism and adherence to compliance standards.

Technology and system usage

In adapting to evolving technology and processes, I use Defence systems to optimise workflow and ensure alignment with organisational standards. I demonstrate the following aptitudes:

- Proficiency in adopting and mastering new tools and platforms to support business processes and accurate data management;
- Streamlining workflow through effective use of available technologies;
- Ensuring compliance and security in digital environments to align system use with organisational policies and standards; and
- Continuous improvement mindset to encourage technological solutions, optimise policy processes and enhance team productivity.

My responsibilities

The Financial Policy Directorate is a service delivery area that establishes and maintains financial framework structures, provides policy support to all areas of the organisation and delivers on a range of reporting obligations.

My day-to-day activities may include:

- Maintaining framework instruments including instructions and delegations from the Secretary of Defence.
- 2. Development and updating of financial policy matters within the remit of the team.
- 3. Providing technical and policy advice to stakeholders across Defence on complex financial policy matters.
- 4. Maintaining grant policy and providing advice to Defence grant program areas
- 5. Drafting or clearing briefs and submissions for Defence senior executives or Ministers.
- 6. Managing and resolving queries from across the organisation.
- 7. Collaborating with stakeholders both internal and external to Defence to deliver strategic objectives.

My skills

The skills I need include:

- 1. Attention to detail to ensure accuracy and completeness in documenting records.
- **2. Critical thinking** to analyse complex financial and policy data in order to make informed recommendations.
- **3. Ability to interpret and apply** relevant legislative policy and regulatory frameworks to provide advice and guidance.
- **4. Collaboration skills** to build strong relationships with stakeholders across various Groups and Divisions.
- **5. Interpersonal skills** to understand stakeholder needs and address concerns effectively.
- **6. Communication skills** to convey complex financial concepts clearly to diverse audiences.
- Time management skills to manage competing priorities, deadlines and risks independently to deliver high-quality outputs.
- **8. Problem-solving** to resolve issues as they arise and provide advice based on limited information and in limited time.
- 9. Resilience to remain calm and focused under pressure.

What I need to know

Depending on my role and level, I need to develop proficiency in the Government and Defence frameworks (some frameworks more than others):

PGPA Act – provides the framework for governance, accountability and financial management in the public sector.

Accountable Authority Instructions (AAIs) – internal policies ensuring compliance with the finance law.

Financial Management Framework – guides budgeting, forecasting, and financial reporting.

Corporate Governance – emphasises internal controls, reporting structures, and compliance with strategic objectives.

Process Improvement – how elements of a function interacts with the framework in order to enhance or redesign financial processes and procedures.

In addition, I need to understand my clients':

- Organisational structure and hierarchy within Defence;
- Operational challenges and priorities; and
- Cultural nuances that may impact policy adherence and implementation.

Succeeding in my role

I achieve the most value and success in my role when I am:

- Ensuring frameworks comply with legislative and regulatory frameworks.
- 2. Providing clear and actionable policy guidance.
- 3. Trusted by my internal and external clients.
- **4. Proactive** in developing and maintaining my understanding of Defence policies, procedures and timeframes.
- **5. Developing and maintaining** strong relationships with stakeholders and effectively addressing their needs and concerns.
- **6. Maintaining effective data records** that are well-organised and up-to-date.
- Consistently delivering reports and briefs on time, meeting both internal and external reporting requirements.
- **8. Implementing policies** based on best practice and evolving needs.
- **9. Actively engaged** with DFG colleagues to share information and learn from their experiences.