

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## 2020 ANZAC DAY PARADE - CANCELLED

The 2020 Anzac Day Parade normally held in the Brisbane CBD has been cancelled due to the severity of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

This will be the first time there has been no annual March since its inception in 1916 and a decision not taken without consideration of veterans and their descendants.

The Brisbane CBD Parade is the only one organised by a Citizen's Committee of more than 100 Service and ex-Service organisations.

The Chairperson, Mrs Wendy Taylor, said the cancellation was in line with bans on gatherings of more than 500 people and the risk of the virus spreading in both participants, volunteers and spectators.

She added "as many ex-servicemen and women were now over 60, putting them in the most at-risk bracket, their health is a priority and although planning for the 2020 Parade had been completed, the Parade Executive felt that public health and safety must take priority."

"Due to the detailed planning needed to co-ordinate participants, support agencies, volunteers, bands and animals, we did not feel that the Parade could simply be postponed to another date", Wendy Taylor said.

"Because the personnel and bands marching changed from year to year, planning would start afresh for the 2021 Parade", she said.

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17 March 2020

For further information: Mr Scott Mackie, Executive Officer

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