



# Army in Motion

## Command Statement

by Lieutenant General Rick Burr, AO, DSC, MVO

### People, Preparedness, Profession, Potential and Partnerships

The Australian Army is, and always has been, in motion. **Army in Motion** is our central idea for how we respond to **Accelerated Warfare** and how Army's teams contribute to Defence strategy.

Being an **Army in Motion** means we need a framework to think about ourselves; to ensure continuity with what we do well, while creating the environment to transform for the future.

Our focus on people, preparedness, profession, potential and partnerships provides this continuity. These themes all work together and inform our judgement to balance being *ready now, future ready*. They support our command philosophy of *mission command* and our emphasis on **Good Soldiering** to create agile and resilient teams.

It is the responsibility of all of Army's leaders, no matter your rank or where you serve, to drive this command focus and enable our soldiers to prepare for war and succeed in cooperation, competition and conflict.

### People

***People are at the centre of our Army.***

Our people are diverse, skilled and resilient volunteers. They lead, inspire and make a difference in our communities, in our region and across the world. They deliver results for Australia every day.

Army's people are **good soldiers**. They create high performing teams who change roles for the problem at hand. Our teams have the attributes of being a credible combat, people and partnered force. They are prepared for uncertainty and provide human presence, protection and reassurance in these environments. Army's people think critically and apply tailored solutions to their teams, missions and roles.

Army's people are our competitive advantage. They bring people together across the joint and integrated force, whole-of-government, military partners, community, industry and academia. They build trust and foster people-to-people links. Our leaders and teams, focused on **Good Soldiering**, underpin our preparedness.

## Preparedness

***We are always prepared – ready now, future ready.***

Preparedness is a dynamic between being *ready now* and *future ready*. It is risk based.

Army is *ready now* for operations today and short-notice contingencies as part of the joint and integrated force. Our people are agile, versatile and adaptive; they are ready to respond to unexpected events, wherever they occur, and succeed in this uncertainty.

We are also focused on being *future ready*. We are increasing our agility and capacity, and introducing new concepts and capability. Being *future ready* is a way of challenging the *status quo*; constantly evolving and transforming how we think, equip, train, educate, organise and prepare for cooperation, competition and conflict.

It is every leader's challenge to think seriously about the requirements of being *future ready*. All leaders, at all levels, need to set the conditions for the future while managing the needs of the present. Understanding context, applying good judgment and leading through risk is key.

Our people, leaders and teams continuously strive to improve our preparedness through physical, intellectual and moral professional development. This is what it means to be a **good soldier** and uphold our professional obligations as a national institution.

## Profession

***We are grounded by our profession.***

We earn and sustain the trust of the society we serve. We apply **Good Soldiering** every day, in all our tasks.

We understand our unique responsibility to apply lethal force when required to do so. This demands physical, moral and intellectual standards of the highest order.

Our people understand their context and exercise sound judgement. We do the right thing. We train and operate in ways that are safe, secure and environmentally responsible. We learn and adapt, and uphold our professional obligations to deliver what the nation expects. Ethical leadership ties this all together and enables our teams to succeed.

## Potential

***We are lifted by our potential.***

**Accelerated Warfare** demands we unlock our full potential. We must optimise what we already have at every level in Army by thinking of new ways to operate and by transforming our training system and workforce.

Potential exists in every corner of Army. Our job is to use this potential and foster a culture where learning, experimentation, innovation and adaptation is the norm. We 'think big, start small and move quickly'. When we fail, we learn quickly and have a positive attitude to improve.

We find pathways for our people to develop their potential including through training, education, sport, civilian accreditation and roles in the community.

As an **Army in Motion** we expect transitions between operations, roles and modes of employment will be more common. We focus on these transitions as they create lasting impressions.

## Partnerships

***We succeed when we collaborate with others.***

Army never operates alone; we succeed when we partner and collaborate with others.

We collaborate across Army. We leverage the capabilities and knowledge of the many diverse units and organisations in our Army, and across the Joint Force.

Army contributes to Defence through our teams. These teams make Navy, Air Force and joint capability stronger. Our people excel at integrating people and teams.

We create capacity and leverage opportunities through partnering with others. We collaborate with industry, academia, research institutes and our communities. Through this collaboration we can think bigger than ourselves and learn from the ideas and practice of others.

Our families and communities play a critical role in supporting our soldiers to succeed. They are our key partners and enable our soldiers to serve the nation.

Using the themes of people, preparedness, profession, potential and partnerships ensures continuity with what we do well, while creating the environment to transform for the future.