



Royal Flying Doctor Service

The furthest corner. The finest care.

MEDIA RELEASE

Flying Doctor and HMAS Perth share common ground

For 1 June, 2016

The Royal Flying Doctor Service welcomed HMAS Perth's new MH60-R Seahawk helicopter at its State Wide Coordination Facility at Jandakot Airport today.

The MH-60R "Romeo" is one of the most capable Anti-submarine (ASW)/Anti-surface Warfare (ASuW) multi-mission helicopters in the world.

RFDS WA Chief Executive Officer Grahame Marshall said the Flying Doctor had a long established relationship with HMAS Perth which began when the Ship's Company had initially nominated the RFDS as its charity of choice.

The RFDS and HMAS Perth have undertaken several joint initiatives, from support for the RFDS' Altitude Ball, through to staff engagement activities with mutually shared outcomes.

"We not only share the skies with the Australian Defence Force (ADF), but we also share a similar culture of innovation and capability," Mr Marshall said. "Just as our ADF is committed to a program of continued innovation and long-term strategic planning and development, the RFDS also has an ongoing commitment to increased capability, sustainability, and has innovation embedded in its DNA.

"We bring together aircraft, medical technology, state-wide coordination and highly trained and qualified medical staff in a seamless process. This ensures that the best possible world leading aero medical care is delivered to our patients whenever and wherever required."

The opportunity to collaborate with the HMAS Perth through developing an understanding of organisational structure, culture and operational processes is highly beneficial for both organisations.

"By sharing aspects of our culture and management processes, both organisations are able to learn more about being innovative and efficient, and continually look for new ways to enhance our capability," Mr Marshall added.

HMAS Perth Commanding Officer Ivan Ingham AM said that he is proud that our modern Navy is an organisation focussed on improving efficiency and innovation.

"We, like the RFDS, act in common purpose," Captain Ingham said. "By sharing information and ideas we can, and will, maximise the strategic effect of our platform and its capabilities."

The RFDS provides emergency care, life saving outcomes, and health treatment and advice to almost 70,000 people in Western Australia every year and has done now in WA for over 80 years. To donate to the RFDS call 1800 669 569 or visit www.flyingdoctor.org.au.

ENDS

Interview and picture opportunity

When: Wednesday 1st June
Time: 9.00am
Where: Royal Flying Doctor Service, Jandakot

Vision, picture and interview opportunities.

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