



## **Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery**

### **Major General Craig Furini, AM, CSC**

Major General Craig Furini attended the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Royal Military College commissioning into the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery in 1990. Since then, he has served in a variety of appointments at the tactical, operational and strategic levels across a range of disciplines.

He initially served as a Lieutenant with 8th/12th Medium Regiment, returning to the Regiment in 2000 as a Battery Commander and again in 2007 as the Commanding Officer. Other artillery appointments have included Forward Observer in 4th Field Regiment and 26 Regiment (SP) (Royal Artillery) in Germany, student on the UK's Gunnery Staff Course, and instructor at the School of Artillery. His final artillery appointment was Head of Regiment from 2016 to 2018.

As a staff officer he has experience at the Brigade, Division, Operational and Strategic levels. Following Staff College in 2002, he was posted to the UK's Defence Intelligence Service (DIS). On return to Australia in January 2006 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and posted to the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO) as the Deputy Director Weapons Systems (Land). For his work in DIO, and the UK, he was awarded the Conspicuous Service Cross.

Following promotion to Colonel in December 2010, he was posted as the Director of Global Operations/J35 Global at HQJOC. He was subsequently seconded to the National Security Staff in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet as the Senior Adviser Defence Policy and Operations. In 2013 he completed the Defence and Strategic Studies Course before becoming the Chief of Staff to the Chief of the Defence Force.

Promoted to Brigadier he deployed as the inaugural Director Strategy, Plans and Assessments on HQ Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve for which he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia and was awarded the US Legion of Merit. On return to Australia, he was appointed Director General Plans/J5 at HQJOC.

Promoted to Major General he was appointed Commander of Operation Sovereign Borders in 2018. He retired from Army in 2021 and assumed the role of Representative Colonel Commandant in 2024,