

## QUESTIONS

**1. The Government of WA Department of Environment Regulation interim guideline on the assessment and management of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) says “due to the contaminant fate and transport properties of PFOA and PFAS, these compounds may travel kilometres from the source site via surface water, groundwater and air. PFAS have the potential to bioaccumulate and biomagnify in food webs as evidenced by their detection in fish and fish-eating birds. To date, PFOS is the only PFC that has been shown to accumulate to levels of concern in fish tissue (estimated bioconcentration factor of 1000 – 4000, US EPA 2014). Does this mean that potentially the chemicals may have escaped into the Ellen, Ki-it Monger and Nambah brooks and then into the Swan River?**

**2. When will the next community information meeting be held in Bullsbrook?**

## RESPONSE TO ALL

Defence commenced a detailed environmental investigation at RAAF Base Pearce in May 2016. The next stage of the investigation will involve water and sediment sampling to establish the extent of the presence of PFAS chemicals in the investigation area. This will include sampling from local water ways. The investigation is expected to be complete in early 2017.

As Defence receives verified results for RAAF Base Pearce, it will make these results available to relevant landholders and state authorities.

The next community information session to discuss the current results of the investigation is expected to be held in September 2016. The community consultation will provide information on the progress of the investigation and the next steps. This will enable the community to ask questions and for Defence to work with local residents to share information. Defence remains committed to being open and transparent with local communities during the investigations.