

Response provided to journalist
22 December 2016

QUESTION

I'm chasing a story about the connection of residents in the Williamstown area to town water. I understand Defence has agreed to expand the reach of its Williamstown Reticulation Program to all areas within the investigation area, including both sides of Shady and Chris Avenue.

I wanted to see if Defence could confirm that, and also comment on whether it was planning to expand the program into Fullerton Cove. Defence has previously said it was considering its options on the issue.

RESPONSE

As part of its election commitments, the Australian Government committed Defence in providing \$3.5m to the Hunter Water Corporation to fund capital works to connect properties in the investigation area that do not have reticulated water to town water as soon as possible.

Defence is currently finalising negotiations with the Hunter Water Corporation on the scope of the capital works in the Williamstown area and will be in a position to announce the scope of works in the near future.