

Response provided to journalist 25 July 2016

Questions:

We received your email about the Williamstown investigations and therefore I just thought I would follow up to see where the HMAS ALBATROSS AND HMAS CRESWELL investigations are at? I understand testing was also being undertaken at Albion Park Airport/ Airport Road?

Has testing commenced?

I understand there's a community forum coming up – do you have a date yet?

Is there anything else you can tell us?

Response:

HMAS Albatross

- Defence commenced a detailed environmental investigation in May 2016.
- The investigation is undertaken in accordance with the National Environment Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure (NEPM) framework.
- The investigation is expected to be complete in early 2017.
- The first stage of the NEPM process is underway and the Preliminary Site Investigation Report is due at the end of July 2016.
- As Defence receives verified results, it will make these results available to relevant landholders and state authorities.
- The next community information session is expected to be held in August 2016. Defence will provide the community with outcomes arising from the preliminary sampling investigation and next steps forward.
- So far, a small number of surface water samples have been taken on public waterways on the boundary of the base and from residential properties.

HMAS Creswell/Jervis Bay Range Facility

Investigations and next steps

- Defence has completed sampling at HMAS Creswell and the Jervis Bay Range Facility as part of a preliminary sampling program.
- The purpose of the preliminary sampling is to understand if PFOS and PFOA are present on, or in the vicinity of, the base.
- Preliminary sampling was limited to on-base sites only at HMAS Creswell and Jervis Bay Range Facility.

- A report detailing the outcomes of the preliminary sampling will be made available to Defence in late August 2016.
- Subject to what is found, a detailed site investigation may follow.

Enquiry on Testing at Albion Park/Airport Road

- Defence has not undertaken sampling or testing at Albion Park/Airport Road.