

Response provided to journalist  
22 November 2016

**Questions**

I am covering the Federal Court proceedings today in *Grant & Ors v Commonwealth* relating to contamination affecting residents around Williamstown Air Force base.

Could you please provide us with a statement concerning Defence's position in the litigation? I'm also interested in the progress of any settlement negotiations and whether they are proceeding in tandem with the litigation.

**Response:**

A class action was filed in the Federal Court of Australia and served on the Commonwealth on 2 November 2016 for alleged losses arising from Defence's historical use of Aqueous Film Forming Foam products at RAAF Base Williamstown.

The Commonwealth will comply with any orders and directions issued by the Federal Court in this matter.

As the matter is now before the Court, it would not be appropriate to comment further at this time.