

Statement:

Defence's primary goal is to ensure that all residents within the Management Area have access to a sustainable source of drinking water. As a result, the connection of Salt Ash Primary School to town water was funded by the Federal Government. Ongoing costs related to the town water connection are funded by the NSW State Government.

Defence remains in contact with the school and representatives from the Department of Education regarding the outcome of the school's utility funding.

Defence is committed to responsible environmental management and will continue to engage with the local community on the investigation and management of PFAS contamination at and around RAAF Base Williamtown.

There is currently no consistent evidence that exposure to per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) causes adverse human health effects. However, because these chemicals persist in humans and the environment, it is recommended that human exposure to these chemicals is minimised as a precaution.