

Response Provided to Journalist  
17 January 2018

**Questions**

- I understand Defence has applied to the Ipswich City Council to undertake soil sampling and groundwater monitoring of six roads adjacent to RAAF Base Amberley.
- Are you able to provide an update on the progress of the Detailed Site Investigation?
- Can you explain how the soil samples and groundwater monitoring will assist Defence in its investigation?
- The works application is for ten days. Can Defence expect to have accurate results within that timeframe?
- Is there anything else you would like to add?
- Are you able to provide any update on Defence's involvement in progressing the \$150 million Amberley Aeronautical Precinct?

**Answer**

In March 2017, Defence commenced a detailed environmental investigation into the presence of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on and in the vicinity of RAAF Base Amberley.

Defence is in the second stage of the investigation, the Detailed Site Investigation. This stage involves a range of sampling on RAAF Base Amberley and in the surrounding region including from six roads adjacent to the Base. These samples will help Defence to understand how far PFAS is migrating from source areas on the Base and at what concentrations. Ten days is a sufficient amount of time to obtain samples. Once samples are taken they are sent to an accredited laboratory for analysis, this process can take several weeks. All sampling results will be published in the Detailed Site Investigation Report which is expected to be finalised in mid 2018.

Further information on the investigation is available on the [RAAF Base Amberley PFAS Investigation Website](#).



*Example of a typical drill rig used to bore holes for sampling.*

Defence understands the Amberley Aeronautical Precinct is a private sector proposal. Defence is not able to comment on its status.