

Questions (from various publications):

Publication One:

We are keen to get some statements in response to the following questions regarding investigations into possibility PFAS contamination at Blamey Barracks – the First Recruit Training Battalion Kapooka.

1. Why is this investigation being carried out?
2. What is the expected timeframe for the investigation, i.e. when is it expected to get underway and when is it expected to be completed?
3. What type of community consultation / information sessions will be held with nearby residents, particularly those who live in Defence housing just outside the base, and in neighbouring San Isidore?
4. When will this session/these sessions be held?

Publication Two:

I am seeking to confirm that there is a PFAS investigation beginning at Kapooka's Army Base.

Can you confirm that?

When is the next community information session due to be held?

Response:

The Department of Defence has been proactive in initiating an environmental program to investigate and manage per- and poly- fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) on, and in the vicinity of, Defence sites as a result of the historical use of legacy firefighting foam.

After reviewing the available information, it has been determined that a detailed environmental investigation is required at, and in the area surrounding, Blamey Barracks (Kapooka).

Defence will hold a community information session in early August to discuss the commencement of the investigation and to provide the local community with information about the investigation processes, as well as expected timeframes.

The details of the information session will be made publically available once they have been confirmed. This notification will be circulated via local print advertisements, a letterbox-drop to nearby residents, as well as through the Defence PFAS Investigation and Management Program website.