

**Response provided to journalist
07 November 2018**

Questions:

Just after an update on the investigation into PFAS at and around the Edinburgh RAAF base - the final report into the inquiry was due towards the end of this year. When will the report be finalised and released?

What can we expect from this report?

Response:

Defence is finalising the Detailed Site Investigation (DSI) into the nature and extent of PFAS as part of the environmental investigation at RAAF Base Edinburgh and nearby areas.

All sampling for the DSI is now complete and a report has been prepared which will be shared to relevant state agencies for review before being finalised in December 2018.

Defence will use the findings of the DSI to undertake the final stage of the investigation, a Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA). The HHERA will assess any potential PFAS exposure risks for people, plants or animals within the Investigation Area and is expected to be complete in the first quarter of 2019.

Defence will hold a community information session in December 2018 to provide the community an update on the investigation and present the DSI findings. Details of the event will be advertised in local media and on the investigation website once available.

There is currently no consistent evidence that exposure to PFAS causes adverse human health effects. However, because we have learned that these chemicals can persist in humans and the environment, it is recommended that human exposure to these chemicals is minimised as a precaution.