HOT ISSUE BRIEF

ISSUE: NAVY SEAHAWK HELICOPTER UNSERVICABLE AT COFFS HARBOUR AIRPORT

SENSITIVITY: Media Interest expected to be very low given the aircraft location at Coffs Harbour airfield.

KEY ISSUES:

- Seahawk helicopter ‘Tiger 71’ was conducting currency training enroute to Queensland.
- After a scheduled stop and whilst preparing for departure, the Auxiliary Propulsion unit failed to start.
  - Initial attempts to rectify the defect have been unsuccessful.
- Fault finding on the defect is continuing.
BACKGROUND: NAVY SEAHAWK HELICOPTER unserviceable at COFFS HARBOUR airport

Navy Seahawk Tiger 71 was conducting a transit from HMAS Albatross in NSW to Queensland.

The aircraft was conducting staff continuation training.

Tiger 71 had refuelled at Coffs Harbour where the defect was identified.

Fault finding is continuing to identify the defect.

TELKING POINTS

• A Navy Seahawk is currently unserviceable at Coffs Harbour airport.
• Whilst preparing for departure from Coffs Harbour after a scheduled stop, the aircraft's Auxiliary propulsion unit failed to start.

• Safety of the aircraft and its occupants are a primary concern for Navy. The failure did not create any safety issues or concerns.

• The aircraft will remain at Coffs Harbour airfield whilst fault finding continues.

Contact Officer: CMDR S. Craig W: 02 44241816 M:
Authorised by: CDRE P.G. Laver W: 02 44241200 M:
PA Clearance by: Caroline Chalker W: 02 6127 1951 M: