AN UNSERVICEABLE MRH-90 HELICOPTER AT ADFA

NATURE OF THE ISSUE:
- A MRH-90 Helicopter will remain overnight on an Australian Defence Force Academy sporting field in Canberra after suffering a minor technical fault.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE ISSUE:
- The aircraft was involved in properly authorised familiarisation activities for Defence staff in Canberra on Wednesday 4 April 2012.
- A technical fault prevented the aircraft taking off to return to its base at Nowra NSW.
- The aircraft will remain overnight awaiting rectification action.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:
- Navy maintenance staff from 808 SQN at Nowra have been dispatched to repair the aircraft and provide overnight security in accordance with Defence security procedures.
- The aircraft will remain at the ADFA Eastern Sporting Oval until new components are fitted and the aircraft is tested serviceable.
- It is anticipated that the aircraft will be repaired and depart on 5 April 2012.

RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
- The MRH90 Program was announced as a Project of Concern on 28 November 2011 and continues to attract significant media attention.