ARMED RECONNAISSANCE HELICOPTER SUSPENSION OF FLYING OPERATIONS

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT:
• Following an incident involving fumes in the cockpit of an Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter (ARH), the Army Fleet of ARH has been suspended from flying operations.

THE DATE AND TIME OF THE INCIDENT:
• At 1618h on 24 June 2012, fumes from an unknown source were detected in the cockpit of an ARH during flying operations at Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
• The ARH returned safely to an airfield on Shoalwater Bay Training Area.
• The aircrew was not injured.
• Inquiries into the cause of the fumes are ongoing.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:
• Major General Michael Slater, the Army’s Operational Airworthiness Authority, suspended flying operations of the ARH.