ARMY BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER PRECAUTIONARY LANDING NEAR TAREE, NSW

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT:
- An Army Black Hawk helicopter made a precautionary landing on a beach near Taree, NSW as a result of bad weather on the evening of Friday 4 April 2014.
- When the weather cleared, the helicopter moved to a safer location on a nearby school oval.
- The helicopter remained at the oval overnight as a result of continued bad weather.
- There were no injuries or property damage as a result of the precautionary landing.
- The aircraft was on a routine transit flight and when it took off from Port Macquarie bound for Sydney, weather conditions on the flight path were clear. When the aircraft encountered bad weather, it landed in accordance with normal procedures.
- Unrelated to the precautionary landing due to bad weather conditions, on start up on the morning of 5 April 2014, the aircraft displayed a warning light.

ACTIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY:
- A technical maintenance support team from Holsworthy is en route to the aircraft to assess the warning light.
- Bad weather forecast for the afternoon of 5 April 2014 may further delay the departure of the aircraft.
- The aircraft has attracted significant interest with the local community and media interest is expected.
- The aircraft is not disrupting any sporting or community activity.