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Sensitivities:

Reports of civilian casualties in Iraq

- Defence assessed all known facts of the incident and determined that the Australian airstrike was in full compliance with the law of armed conflict, the rules of engagement, and the Chief of Defence Force Targeting Directive.
- It was a terrible incident: Our Defence Force personnel will always do everything they can to ensure that civilian casualties are avoided.

BACKGROUND:

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Civilian casualties in Iraq

The Department of Defence has confirmed publicly that an Australian airstrike and nearby Coalition airstrikes in the Al Shafaar neighbourhood of Mosul on 13 June 2017 may have caused civilian casualties. They advise that it is not possible to determine if the civilian casualties occurred as a result of the Australian airstrike or from the nearby Coalition airstrikes. The Coalition assesses that between six and 18 civilians may have been killed. The airstrikes occurred during the successful Mosul offensive. Australia conducted a comprehensive review of all available records in relation Australian strike, including full motion video and detailed imagery before and after the strike. As the available information provides a comprehensive understanding of this incident from an ADF perspective, Defence will not be conducting any further review or inquiry.

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Contact Officer:	s 22	Contact Number:	s 22
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