



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 General

The Defence Site Maribyrnong (DSM) is currently owned by the Commonwealth Department of Defence (Defence). It is located on Cordite Avenue, Maribyrnong, approximately 10km north-west of central Melbourne and encompasses an area of approximately 127 hectares (refer to Figure A). It is located inside a prominent bend in the Maribyrnong River with mainly residential properties beyond the river. The Site is therefore bounded to the north, east and west by the Maribyrnong River and to the south by Cordite Avenue and Raleigh Road.

The DSM is surplus to Defence requirements so the Commonwealth intends to remediate and dispose of the site in accordance with Commonwealth legislation and policy and, where practical, meet the intent of Victorian State requirements. The site will be disposed to Places Victoria for redevelopment under a Priority Sale agreement, and will include a mix of residential, open space, commercial and ancillary uses. Decommissioning, demolition and remediation of the site will be undertaken with the objective of obtaining a Certificate, or more likely a Statement, of Environmental Audit pursuant to Section 53X of the Victorian Environment Protection Act 1970. The appointed Environmental Auditor ('the Auditor') for the DSM is Mr Anthony Lane of Cardno LanePiper Pty Ltd.

DSM has been divided into the six Environmental Audit Areas as shown in Figure A. The Audit Area boundaries have been established to reflect historical process areas, likely future landuse and site features.

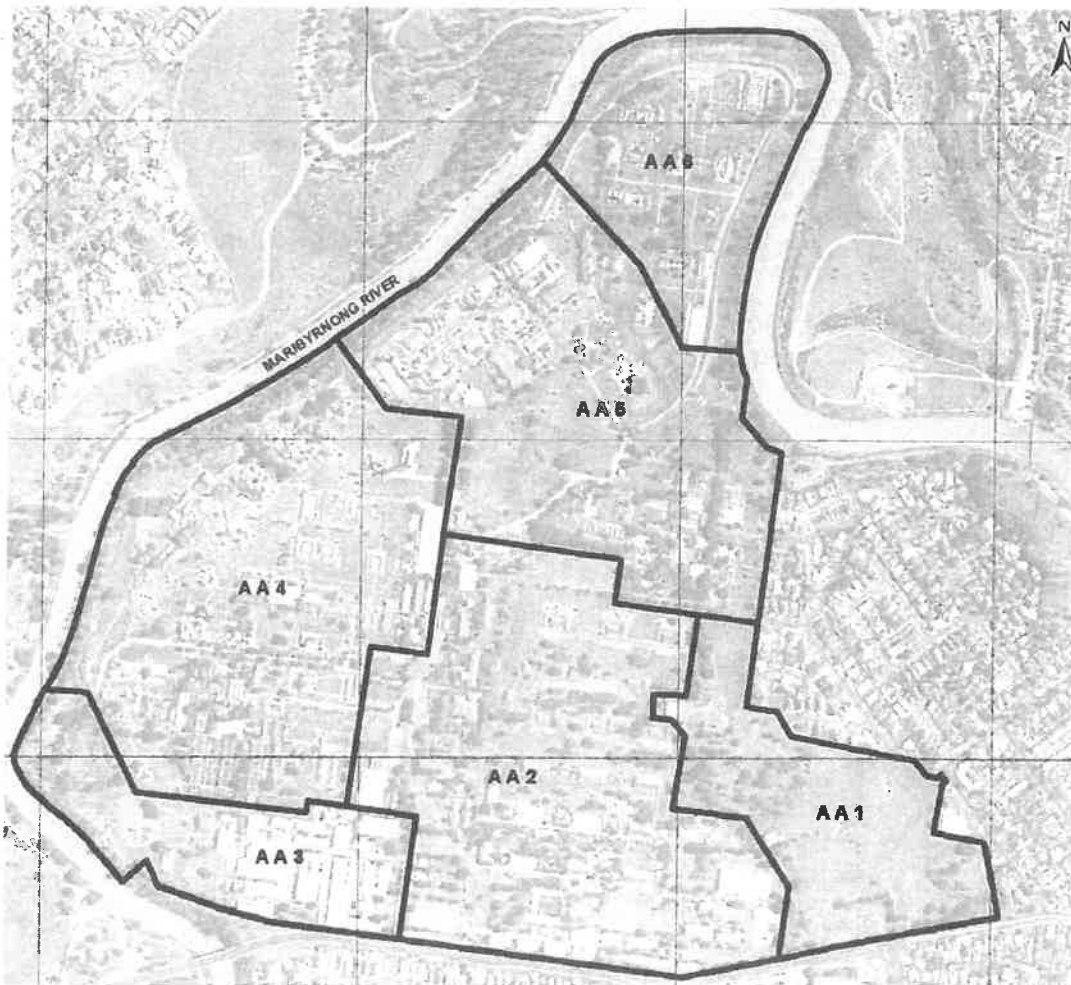


Figure A: Site Plan Showing Audit Areas



Figure C: Plan of Investigation Areas

Audit Area 1 comprises parts of Investigation Area 6 (Remount Depot, Stables and Explosive Storage) and Investigation Area 7 (Engineering Design Establishment (EDE)). It included four general areas:

- Fisher Stables and surrounds;
- Engineering Development Establishment (EDE), now known as the Land Engineering Agency (LEA);
- Army & Airforce Canteen Service (AAFCAEs); and
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO).

A large portion of Audit Area 1 is vacant land. No record of the production or large scale storage of explosives or chemicals in Audit Area 1 was found during the gap analysis process.