



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

Brigadier Noel Beutel
Director General
Capital Facilities & Infrastructure
Department of Defence
Brindabella Business Park (BP26-1-B101)
PO Box 7925
Canberra BC ACT 2610
☎: (02) 6266 8101
✉: noel.beutel1@defence.gov.au

DGCFI-ID/OUT/2016/AF24692007

Senator Dean Smith
Chair
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Smith,

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT FOR C-17 MAINTENANCE FACILITY,
AIRCRAFT APRON AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT, RAAF
BASE AMBERLEY, QUEENSLAND**

This letter is to inform the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC) of the nature and extent of community consultation undertaken as part of the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project (the Project).

Broadly, the strategy for community consultation adopted by Defence was undertaken with the objective of:

- Ensuring that the public was informed about the project using cost effective, wide ranging communication channels; and
- Ensuring the public had every opportunity to raise issues of concern or seek further information.

The consultation activities undertaken included:

- Individual and group information provided through existing relationships with the neighbouring property owners and managers;
- Detailed email correspondence with local groups, State and Federal members, with individual briefings conducted where requested. The members and groups consulted, with a short description of the outcomes of the contact are detailed in Annex A. An example of the correspondence sent to the respective groups is detailed at Annex B;
- Advertisements in the local newspapers, listed in Annex C;
- Public Consultation Session undertaken on 17 March 2016, details listed at Annex D;
- Promotion of the Project through local community networks including the QLD Department of State Development, Queensland Government, the RAAF Base Amberley Consultative Working Group; and
- Key issues raised by the Community through the Consultation sessions are listed at Annex E.

In general, the community feedback regarding the Project was extremely positive and did not raise any issues relating to the construction of the C-17 maintenance facility and supporting infrastructure. There was strong support from the local community as the Project has the potential to generate employment for small, medium and large sized local businesses.

In conclusion, no significant issues have been identified during Defence's community consultation that will impact on the proposed works, and Defence is satisfied that it has taken all reasonable steps to inform the Community about the project and to provide opportunities for the Community to raise concerns.

Yours sincerely,

N. F. Beutel
Brigadier
Director General
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

15 April 2016

Annexes:

- A. List of Stakeholders consulted and outcomes of consultation
- B. Example correspondence sent to Key Stakeholders
- C. Newspaper and Media Advertisements
- D. Public Consultation Sessions undertaken for the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project
- E. Key questions and issues raised during Community Consultation sessions

**ANNEX A TO
DGCFI-ID/OUT/2016/AF24692007
DATED 15 APRIL 2016**

LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED – AMBERLEY

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Ipswich City Council, Mayor Paul Pisasale	Email correspondence sent on 11 March 2016.	Follow up call made by CFI on 16 March 2016 to the Personal Assistant of the Mayor – Heather Gunn - informed that they will email Project Director Amberley (PD Amb), Chris Sankey, if any issues arise. Heather stated that the Mayor was not available for the Public Information forum on 17 March 2016, however he is very supportive of the Base and the benefits it brings to the Region.
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	Federal Member for Blair, Hon Shayne Neumann MP	Email correspondence sent on 11 Mar 2016.	PD Amb, received an email on 16 March 2016 from Mr Neumann's office; requesting a briefing on the C-17 Project at 11:30am Thursday 24 March 2016 at the Member's electorate office (Shop 28-29, 68 Hunter Street Brassall). On 17 March 2016, PD Amb agreed to the meeting place and time. A project overview was provided to Mr. Neumann on 24 March 2016 by PD Amb and the senior project manager from the contractor, RPS Project Management (Paul O'Sullivan). Mr. Neumann was very supportive of the project and the Base as a whole as it provides constant employment in the area. Mr. Neumann

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			requested an update of other CFI projects that were currently underway at RAAF Amberley. This was subsequently provided on 05 April 2016.
STATE GOVERNMENT	State Member for Ipswich, Ms Jennifer Howard MP	Email correspondence sent on 11 March 2016.	Follow up call made 16 March 2016, where staffer confirmed that the email sent on 11 March 2016 had been received and that there were no concerns. No formal correspondence has been received.
	State Member for Ipswich West, Mr Jim Madden MP	Email correspondence sent on 11 March 2016.	PD Amb received an email from the Member's office on 17 March 2016, asking the number of workers during construction phase and whether new jobs would be created when the facility is completed. PD Amb responded on 21 March 2016; approximately 225 personnel is predicted during construction, and no new jobs will be created, as the facilities are to support the current incumbent 36SQN operation and personnel.
	Department of State Development, Queensland Government, Mrs Bridget Edwards	Email correspondence sent on 11 March 2016.	Department State Development representative (Manager of Economic Development Regional Services, Mr. David Sparks) attended the Community Consultation on 17 March 2016, in place of Mrs. Bridget Edwards. Mrs. Edwards sent an email on 29 March 2016 to PD Amb asking if the construction of Growler and Battlefield Airlifter Projects have been approved and the name of the winning

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			<p>contractors.</p> <p>PD Amb responded on 30 March 2016, advising that the Growler project has attained expediency and successful contractor is Lend Lease. Managing Contractor negotiations are continuing for the BFA.</p> <p>Mrs. Edwards sent an email on 30 March 2016 to PD Amb; asking if the new sewer treatment plant at Amberley has been approved. PD Amb responded that a Ministerial Submission is currently awaiting approval from the Minister of Defence.</p> <p>RPS Project Management forwarded an email from Mrs. Edwards on 04 April 2016. In the email Mrs. Edwards requested for contact details of the person to speak to about the C17 Project supply chain.</p> <p>PD Amb responded on 04 April 2016; that CPB Contractors will conduct a similar presentation to what Lend Lease conducted for the Growler project. In addition, PD Amb confirmed with CPB Contractor, Justin Griffin, that an industry presentation was going to be conducted and to ensure Bridget is invited. Bridget responded on 04 April 2016, that she will be meeting Justin Griffin from CPB on Monday 11 April 2016, where she wants to work with CPB in delivering the industry brief.</p>

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
	Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR)	Project information was provided on the 'Contact Us' page of the Department's website.	Lindsay Murray (PD-Enoggera) in ongoing consultation with DTMR. DTMR wanted to clarify some points on how the projects may affect QLD roads. Questions in email dated 21 March 2016.
COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS	Australian Koala Foundation	Email correspondence sent on 16 March 2016.	<p>Phone conversation between CFI and Save the Koala Organisation on 16 March 2016. Save the Koala advised that the previous contact had left and the new contact is Douglas Kerlina. Douglas was invited to the Public Consultation.</p> <p>CFI sent a follow up email to Douglas on 04 April 2016, asking whether the organisation had any comments. Douglas responded on the 04 April 2016; raising his concern 'with the placement of the 'Explosives ordinance pallet build facility', and whether there were alternate locations available that would result in less removal of Koala habitat.</p> <p>PD Amb responded on 05 April 2016, that protection of koala feed trees was a high consideration and all structures built within the EO template are designed to reduce the impact to koala habitat as much as possible. However, EO arcs limit the siting options available, with safety of personnel the highest priority. The project will plant trees in a habitat compensatory area at a ratio of 5:1 near Bremer</p>

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			River, an area that should not be subjected to future development.
	Ipswich Koala Protection Society	Email correspondence sent on 11 March 2016.	Follow Up email sent on 16 March 2016. No response. Follow up call made on 05 April 2016, Ruth confirmed she had received all emails, but she had no comment on the C-17 project at that time. CFI received an email from Ruth on 07 April 2016. Thanking CFI for notifying IKPS and requested the ongoing liaising between IKPS and Environment Officers at RAAF Base Amberley to continue. PD Amb responded that he would "ensure that the Base Regional Environmental Officers are kept update to date with all relevant matters".
	RAAF Base Amberley Consultative Working Group (ACWG)	21 March 2016	The Project Team offered to provide a brief at the Amberley Consultative Working Group (ACWG). The Chair of the ACWG provided the previous working group minutes which mentions the C-17's although not Project Specific. Chair of the ACWG has confirmed no further briefing required.
	Regional Development Australia Ipswich & West Moreton, Mr Rees Banks	Email response sent on 30 March 2016	Follow up to Mr. Banks' request (at the Community Consultation session 17 March 2016) of an aerial of RAAF Base Amberley

LEVEL OF CONSULTATION	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			showing projects and costs. Mr. Banks emailed CFI on 31 March 2016, thanking for the assistance.
	Community Consultation Session	17 March 2016	An open forum Community Consultation Session was conducted for the public and industry. Further details can be found in Annex E.

ANNEX B TO
DGCPI-ID/OUT/2016/AF24692007
DATED 15 APRIL 2016

EXAMPLE CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS

An example of the email correspondence is as follows:

Dear,

I am writing to you on behalf of The Department of Defence regarding the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project.

The C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project will construct new facilities and infrastructure at RAAF Base Amberley to support additional RAAF capabilities and aircraft.

The aim of the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure project is to provide fit for purpose facilities to support and sustain the operation of the C-17 capability. This will include new working accommodation, maintenance facilities, parking apron and associated support services facilities. The project will also provide infrastructure to support the Air Mobility Groups heavy lift operations, and RAAF Base Amberley services infrastructure.

The total estimated cost of the works at RAAF Amberley is \$219 million, excluding Goods and Services Tax. Subject to Parliamentary approval of the Project, construction is expected to begin early 2017 and will be completed in 2018.

The Statement of Evidence, which provides detailed information on the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure project, can be downloaded from the Parliamentary Works Committee website:

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works/C-17_Amberley/Submissions

The public hearing for the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works has an anticipated date in early April 2016, at a yet to be determined time and location.

If you would like any additional information or would like to be briefed on the project please do not hesitate to contact either myself via mobile phone below or e-mail on christopher.sankey1@defence.gov.au or contact the Project Officer Ms Melissa Wong on (02) 6266 8269 or email melissa.wong@defence.gov.au

Yours sincerely,

Regards

Chris Sankey

Capital Facilities Infrastructure Branch
Canberra A.C.T.
BP26-01-C065
Ph. (02) 6266 8227; Fax. (02) 6266 8103
Mobile 0420 977 085
Email. christopher.sankey1@defence.gov.au

**ANNEX C TO
DGCFI-ID/OUT/2016/AF24692007
DATED 15 APRIL 2016**

**NEWSPAPER AND MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS
AMBERLEY**

The PWC public consultation sessions for the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project, were advertised in the Courier Mail, Toowoomba Chronicle and Queensland Times (newspaper and online) as follows:

Courier Mail	Toowoomba Chronicle	Queensland Times
Friday 11 March 2016	Friday 11 March 2016	Friday 11 March 2016
Saturday 12 March 2016	Saturday 12 March 2016	Saturday 12 March 2016
Tuesday 15 March 2016	Tuesday 15 March 2016	Tuesday 15 March 2016



Australian Government

Department of Defence

**Notice of Community Information Forum
C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron
And Associated Infrastructure Project
RAAF Base Amberley**

The Department of Defence is holding a community information forum to outline the proposed construction works related to the C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project. These works are subject to Parliamentary approval.

The C-17 Maintenance Facility, Aircraft Apron and Associated Infrastructure Project will construct new facilities and infrastructure at RAAF Base Amberley to support additional RAAF capabilities and aircraft.

The Department of Defence and representatives from the Managing Contractor will be present to provide one-on-one information on the project and to answer any questions.

When: Thursday 17th March 2016

Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm

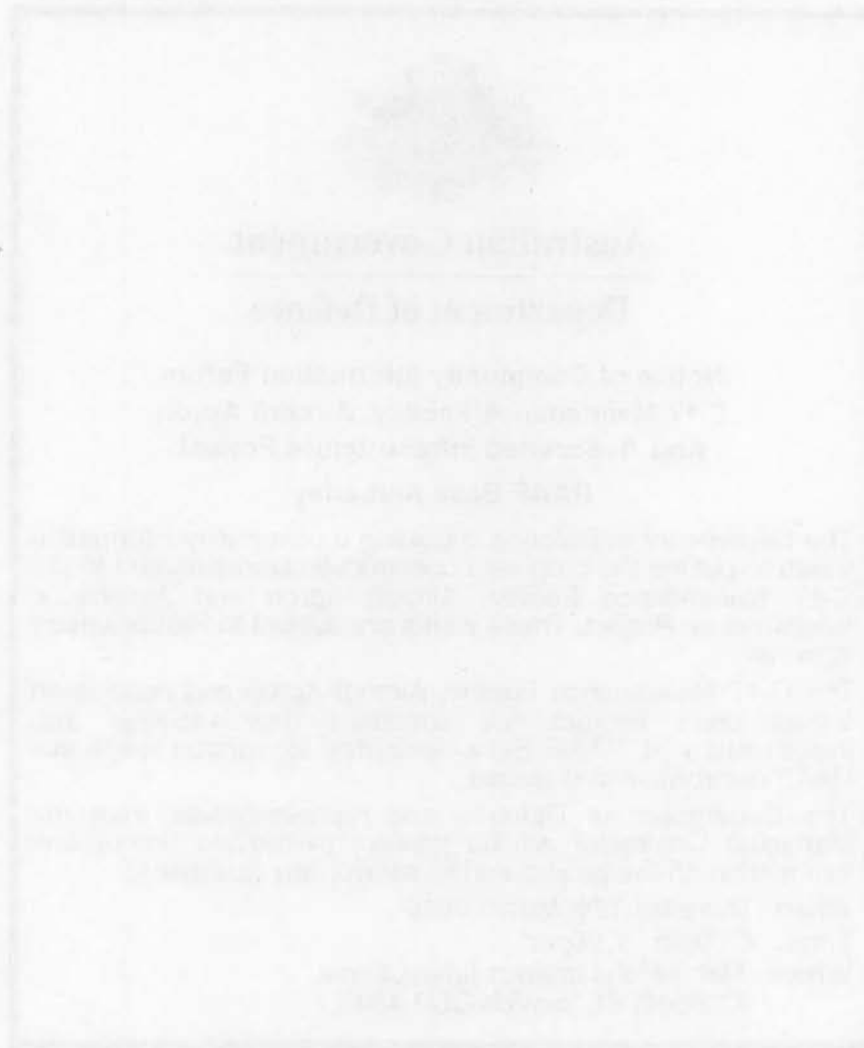
Where: Metro Hotel Ipswich International,
43 South St, Ipswich QLD 4305

ASSET TO
POLY-PROPYLENE
BETTER QUALITY

2. PROJECT AND THE INVESTMENT

The project is a major infrastructure project for the RAAF. It is a multi-phased project that will involve the construction of a new maintenance facility, aircraft apron and associated infrastructure. The project is located at the Royal Australian Air Force Base, Amberley, Queensland.

Project Name	Project Description	Project Status
Project 1: Maintenance Facility	Construction of a new maintenance facility for the RAAF.	Completed
Project 2: Aircraft Apron	Construction of a new aircraft apron for the RAAF.	In Progress
Project 3: Associated Infrastructure	Construction of associated infrastructure for the RAAF.	Not Started



**ANNEX D TO
DGCFI-ID/OUT/2015/AF24692007
DATED 15 APRIL 2016**

**PUBLIC CONSULTATION SESSION FOR C-17 MAINTENANCE FACILITY,
AIRCRAFT APRON AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT**

IPSWICH CONSULTATION SESSION

The Public Consultation Session was conducted over a period of approximately one hour to allow members of the public to understand the Project and the proposed works. The Public Consultation Session was conducted at the following location and time:

- A drop in Community Evening was held on Thursday 17 March 2016 between 6pm and 7pm, at the Metro Hotel Ipswich International.
- A total of nine (9) people attended the evening which included a contractor from Ipswich, representatives from the Queensland State Government Department of State Development, representatives from Regional Development Australia and representatives from the RAAF Base Amberley historical model society.

TO: [REDACTED]
FROM: [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

RE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ANNEX E TO
DGCFI-ID/OUT/2016/AF24692007
DATED 15 APRIL 2016

KEY QUESTIONS AND ISSUES RAISED DURING THE COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION

A summary of the key issues and questions that were received during the community consultations, including the Defence responses provided, is indicated in the table below:

SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES		
ISSUE/QUESTION	HOW EACH ISSUE/QUESTION WAS ADDRESSED	COMMUNITY MEMBER
PROJECT SPECIFIC		
How often are all eight C-17 aircraft at RAAF Base Amberley?	36 Squadron representative responded that it was only rarely as there was usually one aircraft away at any one time on tasking as well as others elsewhere undergoing maintenance or training.	Rees Banks, Regional Development Australia
What is the C-17 aircraft lifespan and how old are they?	36 Squadron representative responded that four of the C-17 aircraft are approximately 10 years old but the aircraft could be expected to last for approximately 30 years.	Rees Banks, Regional Development Australia
What maintenance activities will be conducted in the hangar? Is there maintenance conducted elsewhere?	36 Squadron representative responded that the hangar would be used for the Home Station Checks which involved approximately 9 days of maintenance on each of the eight aircraft every 180 days. The hangar will also be used for non-scheduled maintenance tasks. Other deeper level maintenance is conducted by Boeing in the US, which takes about three months. One aircraft would be heading over to the US this year for the deep level maintenance and then the other three that are 10 years old will follow one after the other.	Rees Banks, Regional Development Australia