



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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Senator Dean Smith

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

Dear Senator Smith,

**DEFENCE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS -
LAND 121 STAGE 2 UNIT SUSTAINMENT FACILITIES PROJECT**

This letter provides additional information on the LAND 121 Stage 2 Unit Sustainment Facilities Project (the Project) regarding issues raised in the briefing and during the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works Public Hearing as conducted in Canberra on 27 November 2015.

The Committee sought additional information regarding:

- the area of working accommodation being provided across the Project; and
- details regarding Defence's plans for project related and ongoing community consultation, and in particular, traffic management during construction.

Working Accommodation

Working accommodation is to be provided as part of the proposed facility upgrades and / or rebuilds. The proposed working accommodation areas include space for offices, meeting and training rooms, kitchenettes and ablutions.

The approximate areas of working accommodation proposed are as shown in the table below.

Location	Approximate Area (m ²)
3 Combat Services Support Battalion - Lavarack Barracks	4,200
7 Combat Services Support Battalion - Gallipoli Barracks	1,300
24 Mechanical Equipment and Operational Maintenance Section - RAAF Base Edinburgh	20
26 Mechanical Equipment and Operational Maintenance Section - RAAF Base Williamtown	250

The nature and size of working accommodation areas proposed directly relates to the 'nature of construction' (upgrade or rebuild), the 'type of unit' the facility supports and the 'function' of the facility. As an example, the working accommodation proposed at Lavarack Barracks is a rebuild in support of an Army 'battalion' size unit that provides combat service support to an Army 'brigade' is considerably more than the provision of working accommodation proposed at RAAF Base Edinburgh in support of an Air Force 'section' size unit that provides minor mechanical and equipment maintenance.

Community Consultation

Before commencing construction on any of the proposed work sites, the Managing Contractor for the Project is contractually required to prepare for Defence approval, site specific Traffic Management Plans. These Traffic Management Plans will detail how construction traffic is to enter and exit the Bases, including matters such as allowed timings for deliveries of construction materials, traffic controllers and parking arrangements.

As part of the process to finalise the Traffic Management Plan for Gallipoli Barracks, meetings with the local community members and known action groups, including the Gallipoli Precinct Action Group will be arranged. This meeting will allow community members to understand the proposed traffic measures and provide feedback to Defence. Defence will then consider any such feedback, and wherever possible, implement appropriate suggestions to minimise the impact of construction traffic on the local community. In addition, a quarterly meeting will be established for the duration of the proposed works at Gallipoli Barracks to provide local community members with regular updates on the construction work. This meeting will also provide the opportunity for community members to provide direct feedback to Defence on any other project related issues. Finally, the Project will maintain the 'email inbox' for community members to make contact at any time with the Project Team on issues relating to the project.

On the matter of regular consultation with community groups from an ongoing Base perspective, Commander 7 Brigade has advised me that as the Senior Australian Defence Force Officer for Gallipoli Barracks, he and / or his staff in consultation and engagement with the Estate and Infrastructure Group's Base Support Manager, do regularly consult with and respond to concerns from the community, including local action groups. However despite such efforts, Defence notes that it may not be possible to resolve all issues to the satisfaction of all community member and / or local action groups.

Further correspondence addressing other concerns raised to you from local residents near Gallipoli Barracks (but not directly related to this project) will be sent to you shortly from the Assistant Minister for Defence, the Hon Darren Chester MP.

Yours sincerely,

N. E. BEUTEL

Brigadier

Director General Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

21 December 2015