**Aeronautical Impact Assessment** 

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# Lot 5 158-164 Hawkesbury Rd & 2a Darcy Rd Westmead Flight Path Obstacle Assessment

**01 August 2017** 

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Lot 5 158-164 Hawkesbury	Combined Projects	LB00126	001	Bruce Robinson
Rd & 2a Darcy Rd Westmead	(Westmead)			

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### **1.** Introduction

On 21 July 2017, an Aeronautical Impact Assessment (AIA) for the proposed building development at Lot 5 158-164 Hawkesbury Rd & 2a Darcy Rd Westmead was submitted to Combined Projects (Westmead).

The purpose of the AIA was to identify and assess an alternative helicopter flight path to the CASB Helicopter Landing Site (HLS) which would avoid building height restrictions at the development site.

An alternative flight path was identified, and the first action required in assessment of this flight path was to identify any obstacles within the flight path parameters that may penetrate the horizontal and vertical Obstacle Limitation Surfaces (OLS) of the flight path.

The identification of possible obstacles has been undertaken by Dawe and Walton, Consulting Surveyors, and the assessment of these obstacles on the OLS has been completed by Landrum and Brown and summarised in this report.

#### 2. Obstacle Assessment

Figure 2.1 (on following page) shows the obstacle assessment area (between the green lines) and potential obstacles. Details of this area are explained in the report of 21 July.

As can be seen significant obstacles within the OLS area are:

- 14 storey building roof height 68 m AHD
- 6 storey building roof height 54 m AHD
- 7 storey building roof height 55 m AHD.

The height of the OLS area starts at the HLS Final Approach and Take Off (FATO) boundary at 76.2 m AHD, and then slopes up at 4.5%. As the obstacles are below the HLS height, these will not penetrate the OLS slope.

Additionally, Table 2.1 shows the slope height at the obstacle locations:

Obstacle	Dist from FATO	Slope Height	CASB HLS AHD	Slope Height at Obstacle	Obstacle Height AHD
14 Storey Bldg	869.5	39.13	76.20	115.33	68
6 Storey Bldg	2138	96.21	76.20	172.41	54
7 Storey Bldg	2449	110.21	76.20	186.41	55

Table 2.1 Obstacle and OLS Slope Heights

As can be seen in Table 2.1 the obstacles are well below the OLS Slope Heights.

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#### Aeronautical Impact Assessment

Lot 5 158-164 Hawkesbury Rd & 2a Darcy Rd Westmead

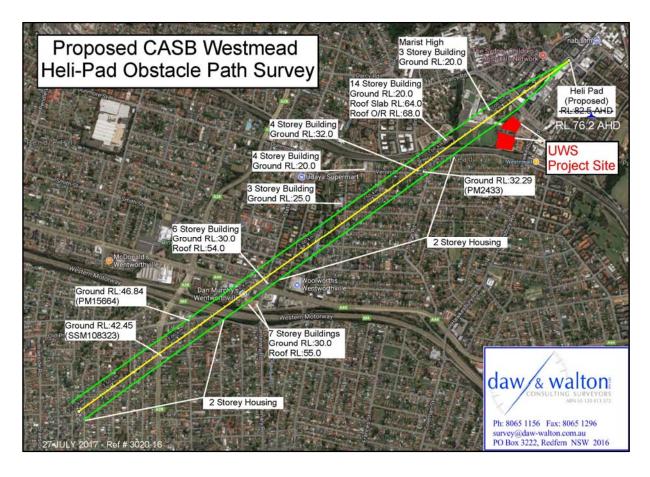


Figure 2.1 Flight Path OAS Area and obstacles

#### 3. Remaining Conditions for Approval of the Proposed Alternative CASB HLS Flight Path

The following remaining actions will be required to obtain approval of the proposed alternative flight path:

- Consultations with the Westmead Hospital and the EMS helicopter operators that will use the CASB HLS to confirm that the flight path is flyable and meets their requirements;
- Consultations with Airservices Australia regarding the modifications to the existing RNAV Instrument approach procedures to integrate with the proposed flight path for the CASB HLS, and Air Traffic Control implications; and
- Presentations to CASA and the DIRD for subsequent approval of the flight path and associated procedures.

It is estimated that this process will take up to 6 months.





### APPENDIX A

#### GLOSSARY OF AERONAUTICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

To facilitate the understanding of aviation terminology used in this report, the following is a glossary of terms and acronyms that are commonly used in aeronautical impact assessments and similar aeronautical studies.

**AC** (Advisory Circulars) are issued by CASA and are intended to provide recommendations and guidance to illustrate a means, but not necessarily the only means, of complying with the *Regulations*.

**Aeronautical study** is a tool used to review aerodrome and airspace processes and procedures to ensure that safety criteria are appropriate.

**AIPs** (Aeronautical Information Publications) are publications promulgated to provide operators with aeronautical information of a lasting character essential to air navigation. They contain details of regulations, procedures and other information pertinent to flying and operation of aircraft. In Australia, AIPs may be issued by CASA or Airservices Australia.

**Air routes** exist between navigation aid equipped aerodromes or waypoints to facilitate the regular and safe flow of aircraft operating under IFR.

**Airservices Australia** is the Australian government-owned corporation providing safe and environmentally sound air traffic management and related airside services to the aviation industry.

**Altitude** is the vertical distance of a level, a point or an object, considered as a point, measured from mean sea level.

**ATC** (Air Traffic Control) service is a service provided for the purpose of:

- a. preventing collisions:
  - 1. between aircraft; and
  - 2. on the manoeuvring area between aircraft and obstructions; and
- b. expediting and maintaining an orderly flow of air traffic.

**CASA** (Civil Aviation Safety Authority) is the Australian government authority responsible under the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* for developing and promulgating appropriate, clear and concise aviation safety standards. As Australia is a signatory to the ICAO *Chicago Convention*, CASA adopts the standards and recommended practices established by ICAO, except where a difference has been notified.

**CASR** (Civil Aviation Safety Regulations) are promulgated by CASA and establish the regulatory framework (*Regulations*) within which all service providers must operate.

*Civil Aviation Act 1988* (the Act) establishes the CASA with functions relating to civil aviation, in particular the safety of civil aviation and for related purposes.



**ICAO** (International Civil Aviation Organization) is an agency of the United Nations which codifies the principles and techniques of international air navigation and fosters the planning and development of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth. The ICAO Council adopts standards and recommended practices concerning air navigation, its infrastructure, flight inspection, prevention of unlawful interference, and facilitation of border-crossing procedures for international civil aviation. In addition, the ICAO defines the protocols for air accident investigation followed by transport safety authorities in countries signatory to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, commonly known as the *Chicago Convention*. Australia is a signatory to the *Chicago Convention*.

**IFR** (Instrument Flight Rules) are rules applicable to the conduct of flight under IMC. IFR are established to govern flight under conditions in which flight by outside visual reference is not safe. IFR flight depends upon flying by reference to instruments in the flight deck, and navigation is accomplished by reference to electronic signals. It is also referred to as, "a term used by pilots and controllers to indicate the type of flight plan an aircraft is flying," such as an IFR or VFR flight plan.

**IMC** (Instrument Meteorological Conditions) are meteorological conditions expressed in terms of visibility, distance from cloud and ceiling, less than the minimum specified for visual meteorological conditions.

**LSALT** (Lowest Safe Altitudes) are published for each low level air route segment. Their purpose is to allow pilots of aircraft that suffer a system failure to descend to the LSALT to ensure terrain or obstacle clearance in IMC where the pilot cannot see the terrain or obstacles due to cloud or poor visibility conditions. It is an altitude that is at least 1,000 feet above any obstacle or terrain within a defined safety buffer region around a particular route that a pilot might fly.

**MOS** (Manual of Standards) comprises specifications (Standards) prescribed by CASA, of uniform application, determined to be necessary for the safety of air navigation.

**NOTAMs** (Notices to Airmen) are notices issued by the NOTAM office containing information or instruction concerning the establishment, condition or change in any aeronautical facility, service, procedure or hazard, the timely knowledge of which is essential to persons concerned with flight operations.

**Obstacles.** All fixed (whether temporary or permanent) and mobile objects, or parts thereof, that are located on an area intended for the surface movement of aircraft or that extend above a defined surface intended to protect aircraft in flight.

**OLS** (Obstacle Limitation Surfaces) are a series of planes associated with each runway at an aerodrome that defines the desirable limits to which objects may project into the airspace around the aerodrome so that aircraft operations may be conducted safely.

**PANS-OPS** (Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Aircraft Operations) is an Air Traffic Control term denominating rules for designing instrument approach and departure procedures. Such procedures are used to allow aircraft to land and take off under Instrument Meteorological Conditions (IMC) or Instrument Flight Rules (IFR). ICAO document 8168-OPS/611 (volumes 1 and 2) outlines the principles for airspace protection and procedure design which all ICAO signatory states must adhere to. The regulatory material surrounding PANS-OPS may vary from country to country.



**PANS OPS Surfaces.** Similar to an Obstacle Limitation Surface, the PANS-OPS protection surfaces are imaginary surfaces in space which guarantee the aircraft a certain minimum obstacle clearance. These surfaces may be used as a tool for local governments in assessing building development. Where buildings may (under certain circumstances) be permitted to penetrate the OLS, they cannot be permitted to penetrate any PANS-OPS surface, because the purpose of these surfaces is to guarantee pilots operating under IMC an obstacle free descent path for a given approach.

**Prescribed airspace** is an airspace specified in, or ascertained in accordance with, the Regulations, where it is in the interests of the safety, efficiency or regularity of existing or future air transport operations into or out of an airport for the airspace to be protected. The prescribed airspace for an airport is the airspace above any part of either an OLS or a PANS OPS surface for the airport and airspace declared in a declaration relating to the airport.

**Regulations** (Civil Aviation Safety Regulations)

**VFR** (Visual Flight Rules) are rules applicable to the conduct of flight under VMC. VFR allow a pilot to operate an aircraft in weather conditions generally clear enough to allow the pilot to maintain visual contact with the terrain and to see where the aircraft is going. Specifically, the weather must be better than basic VFR weather minima. If the weather is worse than VFR minima, pilots are required to use instrument flight rules.

**VMC** (Visual Meteorological Conditions) are meteorological conditions expressed in terms of visibility, distance from cloud and ceiling, equal or better than specified minima.



#### ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations used in this report, and the meanings assigned to them for the purposes of this report are detailed in the following table.

Abbreviation	Meaning
AC	Advisory Circular (document support CAR 1998)
ACFT	Aircraft
AD	Aerodrome
AHD	Australian Height Datum
AHT	Aircraft height
AIP	Aeronautical Information Publication
Airports Act	Airports Act 1996, as amended
AIS	Aeronautical Information Service
Alt	Altitude
AMSL	Above Mean Sea Level
APARs	Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations, 1996 as amended
ARP	Aerodrome Reference Point
AsA	Airservices Australia
ATC	Air Traffic Control(ler)
ATM	Air Traffic Management
BRA	Building Restricted Area (for GP)
CAO	Civil Aviation Order
CAR	Civil Aviation Regulation
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CASR	Civil Aviation Safety Regulation
Cat	Category
DAP	Departure and Approach Procedures (charts published by AsA)
DER	Departure End of (the) Runway
DEVELMT	Development
DME	Distance Measuring Equipment
Doc nn	ICAO Document Number nn
DIT	Department of Infrastructure and Transport. (Formerly Dept. of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and Department of Transport and Regional Services (DoTARS))
DOTARS	See DIT above
ELEV	Elevation (above mean sea level)
ENE	East North East
ERSA	Enroute Supplement Australia
FAF	Final Approach Fix
FAP	Final Approach Point
FATO	Final Approach and Take-Off area (for helicopter HLS)
ft	feet
GBAS	Ground Based Augmentation System (satellite precision landing system)
GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
GP	Glide Path



Abbreviation	Meaning
IAS	Indicated Airspeed
HLS	Helicopter Landing Site
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
IHS	Inner Horizontal Surface, an Obstacle Limitation Surface
ILS	Instrument Landing System
ISA	International Standard Atmosphere
km	kilometres
kt	Knot (one nautical mile per hour)
LAT	Latitude
LOC	Localizer
LONG	Longitude
m	metres
MAPt	Missed Approach Point
MDA	Minimum Descent Altitude
MGA94	Map Grid Australia 1994
MOC	Minimum Obstacle Clearance
MOS	Manual of Standards, published by CASA
MSA	Minimum Sector Altitude
MVA	Minimum Vector Altitude
NASAG	National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group
NDB	Non Directional Beacon
NE	North East
NM	Nautical Mile (= 1.852 km)
nnDME	Distance from the DME (in nautical miles)
NNE	North North East
NOTAM	NOtice To AirMen
OAS	Obstacle Assessment Surface
OCA	Obstacle Clearance Altitude
OCH	Obstacle Clearance Height
OHS	Outer Horizontal Surface
OIS	Obstacle Identification Surface
OLS	Obstacle Limitation Surface
PANS-OPS	Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Operations, ICAO Doc 8168
PBN	Performance Based Navigation
PRM	Precision Runway Monitor
QNH	An altimeter setting relative to height above mean sea level
REF	Reference
RL	Relative Level
RNAV	aRea NAVigation
RNP	Required Navigation Performance
RPA	Rules and Practices for Aerodromes – replaced by the MOS Part 139 – Aerodromes
RPT	Regular Public Transport
RTCC	Radar Terrain Clearance Chart
RWY	Runway
SFC	Surface



Abbreviation	Meaning
SID	Standard Instrument Departure
SOC	Start Of Climb
STAR	Standard ARrival
TAR	Terminal Approach Radar
TAS	True Air Speed
THR	Threshold (Runway)
TNA	Turn Altitude
TODA	Take-Off Distance Available
Vn	aircraft critical Velocity reference
VOR	Very high frequency Omni directional Range
WAC	World Aeronautical Chart