



**Australian Government**

**Department of Defence**  
Estate and Infrastructure Group

Ms Emily Lawrence  
Development Assessment Liaison Officer  
Port Stephens Council  
PO Box 42  
Medowie NSW 2324

Dear Ms Lawrence,

**RE: DA 16-2018-775-1 – PROPOSAL TO CONSTRUCT A NEW BUILDING AT MEDOWIE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AT 6B WAROPARA ROAD, MEDOWIE, NSW 2314**

The Department of Defence (Defence) thanks Port Stephens Council for the opportunity to comment on the proposed construction of a new senior science and technology building at the existing Medowie Christian School at 6B Waropara Road, Medowie, NSW. The subject site is located approximately 6.7Km north RAAF Base Williamtown and 5.7Km west of the Salt Ash Air Weapons Range training facility.

**Aircraft Noise**

Defence acknowledges the subject site is outside of the 2025 Australian Noise Exposure Forecast 20 ANEF Contour for RAAF Base Williamtown and Salt Ash Weapons Range. However, the subject site will experience some level of aircraft noise.

While Defence is conscious of the noise generated by its activities and makes every effort to minimise community aircraft noise exposure, Defence cannot readily modify its activities due to the establishment or intensification of noise-sensitive developments in close proximity to Salt Ash Air Weapons Range. Defence will not accept any liability based on aircraft noise.

**Bird Strike**

The subject site is located in an area mapped by Defence as “Birdstrike Group B”. In this area, certain land uses that have the potential to attract wildlife should be avoided as they will potentially increase the risk for bird strike for aircraft operation from RAAF Base Williamtown.

Organic waste and/or storage of commercial bins associated with the proposed development might be attractive to vermin and/or birds and will potentially increase the risk of bird strike operating from RAAF Base Williamtown. Defence therefore requests that an appropriate condition for the management of organic waste (such as maximum storage onsite and the use of covered/enclosed bins) be included in any approval.