



Australian Government

Department of Defence
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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Mr Dylan Mitchell
Development Assessment Officer
Port Stephens Council
Medowie NSW 2324

Dear Mr Mitchell

RE: DA 16-2020-136-1 – PROPOSAL FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF FOOD AND DRINK PREMISES AND TWO COMMERCIAL TENANCIES WITH BASEMENT CAR PARKING AT 795 MEDOWIE ROAD, MEDOWIE

The Department of Defence (Defence) thanks Port Stephens Council for the opportunity to comment on the proposed construction and use of food and drink premises and two commercial tenancies with basement car parking at 795 Medowie Road, Medowie, NSW. The subject site is located approximately 2.5 Km west of the Salt Ash Air Weapons Range and 6.78 km north of RAAF Base Williamtown.

Aircraft Noise

Defence acknowledges the subject site is outside of the 2025 Australian Noise Exposure Forecast for RAAF Base Williamtown and the Salt Ash Air Weapons Range. However, it is likely 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 RAAF Base Williamtown and the Salt Ash Air Weapons Range. Defence's requirements to conduct a broad range of flying scenarios, both day and night, means current noise mitigation measures may require adaptation. Defence will not accept any liability based on aircraft noise or weaponry activity noise.

Bird Strike

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

Organic waste and/or storage of 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 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.

Should you wish to discuss the content of this advice further, my point of contact is Mr Matthew Williams contactable at land.planning@defence.gov.au or by telephone on (02) 6266 8039.

Yours sincerely

Charles Mangion
Director Land Planning & Regulation

17 August 2020