



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**  
Estate and Infrastructure Group

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DGCFI/OUT/2017/AF28616105

**Mr Scott Buchholz MP**

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

Dear Mr Buchholz,

**COMMUNITY CONSULTATION REPORT – PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE  
UPGRADE OF RUSSELL BUILDINGS 5 AND 6, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL  
TERRITORY**

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 Project – Proposed Infrastructure Upgrade of Russell buildings 5 and 6 Project (the Project).

The objectives of the community consultation undertaken by Defence were to ensure that the community:

- a. was well informed about the Project by using effective and proven communication channels to convey details of the proposed works; and
- b. had every opportunity to raise issues of concern or seek further information so that wherever feasible they could be addressed by Defence in its program of works.

Multiple activities were undertaken in accordance with the project's Stakeholder and Community Consultation Plan, namely:

- a. Correspondence sent by email to local groups, State and Federal members with individual briefings conducted where requested. A list of the members and groups consulted is at annex A, with a short description of the outcomes of the consultation. An example of the correspondence sent to the members and respective groups on 15 March 2017 is provided at annex B;
- b. Advertisements placed in the Canberra Times in the Public Notices section on 12 and 19 March 2017. An example of this advertisement is provided at annex C;
- c. Two Public Information Sessions were held on 22 March 2017 at Russell Offices Building 1 theatre within the Russell Precinct as detailed at annex D.

There were no issues raised by the Community through the Community Information Sessions as there was nil attendance.

In conclusion, no issues have been identified during Defence's community consultation that will impact on the proposed works. 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 and questions.

Yours sincerely,

**N.F. BEUTEL**

Brigadier

Director General Capital Facilities and Infrastructure

21 April 2017

**Annexes:**

- A. List of Stakeholders Consulted and follow-up actions
- B. Example Correspondence Sent to Key Stakeholders
- C. Newspaper Advertisements
- D. Attendance at the Community Information Sessions undertaken for Infrastructure Upgrades of Russell Buildings 5 and 6

**ANNEX A TO  
AF28616105  
APRIL 2017**

**LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED  
PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE OF RUSSELL BUILDINGS 5 AND 6 FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE,  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

<b>STAKEHOLDER</b>	<b>ORGANISATION AND MEMBER</b>	<b>DATE OF CONSULTATION</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>STATE GOVERNMENT</b>	Mr Andrew Barr MLA Member for Kurrajong Legislative Assembly for the ACT	24/03/17	<p>15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.</p> <p>16 March - Defence received email from Mr Barr's office advising they had received the letter and it was receiving attention.</p> <p>21 March – Defence Project Director rang Mr Barr's office, left a message.</p> <p>22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Mr Barr's Office and was informed that no decision had been made at this stage if a briefing was required.</p> <p>24 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Mr Barr's office and was advised that the Minister was still reviewing the letter. Defence advised that they will stay in contact and would provide a briefing in the future if one was required.</p>

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			31 March – Mr Martin Greenwood, from Mr Barr’s office, rang the Defence Project Director to say that they had a miscommunication in their office and they had originally thought the Project was related to the future of Russell. As it is not, they no longer require a briefing.
	Mr Steve Doszpot MLA Member for Kurrajong Legislative Assembly for the ACT	22/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent. 22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang and spoke to Mr Doszpot’s office and was advised that they had reviewed the letter. It was advised that there was no briefing required.
	Ms Elizabeth Lee MLA Member for Kurrajong Legislative Assembly for the ACT	20/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.  15 March – Defence received an email on behalf of Ms Lee advising that Ms Lee had reviewed the proposal and given the outline of the proposed works, the offer of a briefing is appreciated but not required at this time. She also noted the community consultations being offered to interested members of the Public on 22 March, which she would advertise to her constituents.

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			20 March – Defence received an additional email confirming that neither Ms Lee nor her staff require a briefing on the Project.
	Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA Member for Kurrajong Legislative Assembly for the ACT	24/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent. 22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Mr Rattenbury’s office and was advised that a decision on the requirement for a briefing has not yet been made. 23 March – Defence Senior Project Officer received an email from Mr Rattenbury’s office declining the offer of a briefing. Requested an update on the outcomes of the public consultation. 24 March – Defence Senior Project Officer advised Mr Rattenbury’s office via email that there had been no public interest at both Public Information Sessions held on 22 March.
	Ms Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA Member for Kurrajong Legislative Assembly for the ACT	24/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			<p>22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Ms Stephen-Smith’s office and was informed that no decision had been made if a briefing was required. They would advise Defence in the future if a briefing was required.</p> <p>24 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Ms Stephen-Smith’s office and was advised that the Minister was still reviewing the letter. Defence advised that they will stay in contact and would provide a briefing in the future if one was required.</p>
<b>FEDERAL GOVERNMENT</b>	Hon Dr A. K. Leigh MP Member for Fenner	16/03/17	<p>15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.</p> <p>16 March - Defence received an email from the Hon Dr Leigh MP informing Defence that Russell now falls under the electorate of Canberra and not Fraser and he had forwarded the letter to the Hon Gai Brodtmann MP for her consideration.</p>
	Senator K. Gallagher Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate	21/03/17	<p>15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.</p> <p>21 March – Defence Project Director rang Senator Gallagher’s office and was informed that the Senator did not require a briefing on the Project.</p>

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
	<p>Senator Z. M. Seselja</p> <p>Assistant Minister for Social Services and Multicultural Affairs</p>	<p>24/03/17</p>	<p>15 March - Email with scanned letter sent.</p> <p>22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Senator Seselja’s office and was advised that no decision had been made and the letter was with the Diary Manager for review. They would advise Defence if a briefing was required.</p> <p>24 March – Defence Senior Project Officer rang Senator Seselja’s office and was advised that it was with the Chief of Staff for review. Defence advised that they will stay in contact and would provide a briefing in the future if one was required.</p> <p>31 March– Senior Project Officer contacted Senator Seselja’s office, who confirmed that the Senator delegated a briefing to his staff.</p>

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			12 April – The briefing was to be conducted at Senator Seselja’s electoral office, with Mr Zachary Lombardo as his representative. When Defence staff arrived to the meeting Mr. Lombardo and Senator Seselja were not present, therefore the meeting did not take place. The Senior Project Officer emailed Senator Seselja’s office that afternoon asking if a brief was still required, no response was received.
	Ms Gai Brodtmann MP Member for Canberra Legislative Assembly for the ACT	24/03/17	16 March - Defence received email from the office of the Hon Gai Brodtmann MP advising that the Hon Dr Leigh MP had forwarded the letter to her office as the Russell area falls under the Canberra electorate, previously it was in Fraser and that she would consider the offer of a briefing on the Project.  17 March - Email with scanned letter sent.



STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			<p>22 March – Defence Senior Project Officer contacted Ms Brodtmann’s office and was advised that no decision had been made on the Briefing offer but was with the Diary Manager and that they will advise Defence if a briefing was required in the future.</p> <p>24 March – Defence Senior Project Officer contacted Ms Brodtmann’s office and left a message advising that Defence will stay in contact and would provide a briefing in the future if one was required.</p>
<b>COMMUNITY, INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS</b>	Chairperson United Ngunnawal Elders Council C/- Office for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Affairs	15/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent. Community Groups were invited to both Public Information Sessions held on 22 March. Nil attendance.
	Denis O’Brien, Chairperson North Canberra Community Council	15/03/17	15 March - Email with scanned letter sent. Community Groups were invited to both Public Information Sessions held on 22 March. Nil attendance.

STAKEHOLDER	ORGANISATION AND MEMBER	DATE OF CONSULTATION	COMMENTS
			<p>31 March – Email was sent to NCCC to confirm if briefing was required, to which a reply was received from the Chair, Mr Denis O'Brien, stating that they were having membership and correspondence issues and had not yet reviewed the Project. The Defence Senior Project Officer returned a reply email providing information on the project. The Defence Senior Project Officer also provided details for NCCC to contact Defence if they had any questions. No questions have been received.</p>

**ANNEX B TO  
AF28616105  
APRIL 2017**

**EXAMPLE CORRESPONDENCE SENT TO KEY STAKEHOLDERS  
PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE OF RUSSELL BUILDINGS 5 AND 6,  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

An example of the email correspondence is as follows:

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Dear Chairperson,

**PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE OF RUSSELL BUILDINGS 5 AND 6 FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

On behalf of the Department of Defence, I would like to notify your organisation of the proposed works at Russell Offices Buildings 5 and 6 under Russell Offices Buildings 5 and 6 Infrastructure Upgrade Project.

On 02 March 2017, the Project was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and details regarding the project can now be reviewed on the Committee's website at:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/Public\\_Works/RussellOffices](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works/RussellOffices)

The Project proposes to deliver replacements and upgrades to critical infrastructure services within the Australian Signals Directorate's working accommodation buildings, Russell R5 and R6. The services upgrade encompasses a number of specific elements of the engineering services including mechanical, electrical, hydraulic, fire protection and control systems. The Project also proposes to reconfigure the main entry foyer and associated security systems to address functionality and compliance.

For your information, the Department of Defence will be holding two Community Information Sessions on the proposed works. Your group may be interested in attending these sessions which are scheduled for 12.00 pm – 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm – 6.00 pm on Wednesday 22 March 2017. The location for the Community Information Sessions is Russell Offices Building 1 Theatre, 1/51 Russell Drive, Russell Offices, Russell ACT.

If representatives of your group would like further information on the proposed works, please attend the Community Information Sessions or please contact me via email at [lisa.platt@defence.gov.au](mailto:lisa.platt@defence.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**LJ Platt**  
Lieutenant Colonel  
Project Director Victoria / Australian Capital Territory  
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure Branch  
Estate and Infrastructure Group

March 2017

**ANNEX C TO  
AF28616105  
APRIL 2017**

**NEWSPAPER AND MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS  
PROPOSED INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE OF RUSSELL BUILDINGS 5 AND 6,  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE, AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

The Public Consultation Sessions for Infrastructure Upgrade of Russell Buildings 5 and 6 was advertised in the Canberra Times on the 11 and 18 March 2017.

Example advertisements are shown below:

**Notice of Proposed Development**

**Infrastructure Upgrade of Russell Offices Buildings  
5 and 6 for the Department of Defence (Defence),  
Australian Capital Territory (ACT)**

The Department of Defence wishes to announce its intentions to progress works associated with the infrastructure upgrade of Russell Offices Buildings 5 and 6 (The Project) at Russell, ACT.

These works are subject to Parliamentary approval and The Project has now been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (PWC). The function of the PWC is to openly inquire into the purpose, need, cost-effectiveness, revenue and value of proposed Commonwealth projects. Relevant projects are referred to the PWC through the House of Representatives.

More information on the PWC process, The Project and how to make submissions can be found at:

***[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/  
Committees/Joint/Public\\_Works/RussellOffices](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Works/RussellOffices)***

The Project proposes to upgrade the building engineering services and infrastructure including constructing a new diesel generator house to support the capability and operational requirements of the Australian Signals Directorate.

Public information sessions will be held on Wednesday, 22 March 2017 from 12:00pm-2:00pm and 4:00pm-6:00pm at R1 Theatre, 1/51 Russell Dr, Russell Offices, Russell ACT.

Please email any questions or queries regarding the proposed works to the Commonwealth's Project Manager / Contract Administrator at [Robert.Matruglio@rpspm.com.au](mailto:Robert.Matruglio@rpspm.com.au)

**ANNEX D TO  
AF28616105  
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**COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION ATTENDANCE SUMMARY**

There was NIL attendance at the two Community Information Sessions held at Russell Offices, Building R1 Theatre:

- a. Wednesday 22 March 2017 between 12:00pm - 2:00pm; and
- b. Wednesday 22 March 2017 between 4:00pm - 6:00pm.

