Senate Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee Inquiry into Regulatory requirements that impact on the safe use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, Unmanned Aerial Systems and associated systems Question on Notice – 19 September 2017 Due date: 5 October 2017

Question to the Australian Federal Police (AFP)

Has the AFP been approached over the last year (and specifically in June 2017) for approval to fly a drone in the vicinity of Parliament House including over the parliamentary sports ovals during a live rugby match? If so, what process was undertaken in consultation with CASA to consider the request and grant approval?

AFP Response

Requests for activities or the use of the Parliamentary Precinct are not managed by the AFP. All such requests are facilitated by the Department of Parliamentary Services (the Department) in accordance with the Australian Parliament House Operating Policies and Procedures No 16: Protests and Other Assemblies in the Parliamentary Precincts and other relevant policies of the Department.

On occasion the AFP is consulted by the Department in relation to requests by third parties to use drones within the parliamentary precinct. The AFP provides security advice if appropriate, but does not provide final approval.

The AFP was not approached in June 2017 regarding approval to fly a drone in the vicinity of Parliament House, including over the parliamentary sports ovals during a live rugby match.