



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**  
**Defence Support and Reform Group**

Submission No. 1

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DEPSEC DSR/OUT/2013/60

**Senator Louise Pratt**

Committee Chair

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories

PO BOX 6021

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Pratt,

**INQUIRY INTO THE PROVISION OF AMENITY WITHIN THE  
PARLIAMENTARY TRIANGLE**

The Department of Defence makes the following submission in respect of the inquiry into the provision of amenity within the Parliamentary Triangle.

There are two Defence establishments within the Parliamentary Triangle: Russell Offices and Anzac Park West.

The majority of the office/administration buildings located within the Russell apex of the Parliamentary Triangle are Department of Defence (DoD) facilities. There are approximately 8,300 Defence APS and ADF personnel currently occupying the buildings located within the Russell precinct. Defence expects to increase the number of personnel located within the Russell area in the future to achieve greater efficiency by consolidating office/administrative functions into this area. Defence is planning to occupy the existing ASIO building (R9) after ASIO relocates to its new building.

Defence staff who work at Russell offices do not have access to a wide range of retail services. Unlike the other major public sector office employment centres within Canberra, such as Civic, Woden Town Centre, Tuggeranong Town Centre and Belconnen Town Centre, there are no comprehensive retail services available within walking proximity of Russell Offices.

The closest retail services to Russell Offices are located at Civic over 3 kilometres away.

Overall, Defence employees located at Russell Offices are not provided with a comparable level of amenity to people who work in the four other main employment centres in Canberra (Civic, Belconnen, Woden and Tuggeranong).

The use of private transport is necessary to travel to Civic to access retail and personal services because of the infrequent public transport services available from Russell precinct to Civic outside peak morning and afternoon periods.

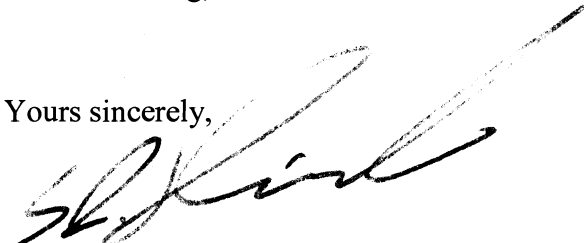
In addition, whereas the four main employment centres use pay parking to moderate parking demand between workers (long-stay) and shoppers (short-stay), at Russell demand consists

of worker requirements only. Consequently, any argument that pay parking helps ensure demand is balanced between short and long stay does not apply. Cultural institutions, such as the National Gallery, are not located within the Russell precinct therefore no competing demands between visitor and worker parking exist for Defence employees.

Most particularly – in terms of understanding the impact of paid parking on our staff – an APS 6 employee in Defence earns around \$2200 per fortnight after tax. Consequently, if paid parking was to be introduced at a rate of \$11 per day – or \$110 per fortnight – this would represent an effective salary decrease for these employees of 5% of take-home pay.

My point of contact for this submission is AIRCDRE Anker Brodersen, Director General Estate Planning, Phone No 02 62668002 email [anker.brodersen@defence.gov.au](mailto:anker.brodersen@defence.gov.au) .

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Grzeskowiak', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Steve Grzeskowiak**  
Deputy Secretary Defence Support and Reform

31 May 2013