



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CASA Ref: G117/268-1

8 May 2017

Dr Richard Gates
President
Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome Committee Inc.

Dear Dr Gates

Public Safety Zones

I refer to your letter of 20 April 2017 with further queries regarding public safety zones (PSZ).

In relation to Mr Tiede's hypothetical application of the dimensions of the Queensland Public Safety Area (PSA) parameters, this information is available on page 29 of the Queensland Government's *State Planning Policy—State Interest Guideline Strategic Airports and Aviation Facilities June 2016* at <https://www.dilgp.qld.gov.au/resources/guideline/spp/spp-guideline-strategic-airports-aviation-facilities.pdf>. The dimensions were applied to the Essendon Airport runway, as a guide only, as there are no other PSA guidelines in Australia. It is important to note that once the National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group (NASAG) PSA guidelines are finalised, they may differ from those in Queensland's PSA guidelines.

Section 9 of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* confers functions on CASA that may be performed at its discretion through the exercise of its powers. The performance of any particular CASA function is not an 'obligation' in the sense that you appear to use that term in your letter.

Nonetheless, CASA has exercised its policy discretion to perform the function to which you refer. This has been through the promulgation of safety standards in the Part 139 Manual of Standards which do not make specific provision for PSZ, but do include, standards pertaining to runway strip width and obstacle limitation surfaces, consistent with the international standards set under the Chicago Convention.

As explained in my previous letter, PSZ and the other matters you have raised are being considered by NASAG. The Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development is the Chair of NASAG and on that basis I have referred your letter to them. If you have any other issues regarding PSZ, I recommend you write to the Executive Director, Aviation and Airports at the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601.

~~Yours sincerely~~

Shane Carmody
Acting Chief Executive Officer and
Director of Aviation Safety