



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

Deputy Secretary

Senator Barry O'Sullivan
Chair
Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator O'Sullivan

Subject: Supplementary Budget Estimates hearing – additional information

I write regarding statements made at the Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings on Monday 17 October 2016.

I wish to clarify information provided at the hearings. The relevant excerpt appears in the Proof Hansard Transcript as follows:

Date: Monday 17 October 2016
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In response to questions from Senator McCarthy and Senator Sterle about noise from pilot training at airports, I answered:

Senator McCARTHY: On pilot training, is the department aware of concerns about the noise emanating from training at airports, such as Jandakot?

Ms Spence: We have not had any issues raised with us around aircraft noise at Jandakot Airport. We obviously heard the questioning earlier on with Airservices, but we—

Senator McCARTHY: So is this the first you have been aware of it?

Ms Spence: It has not been raised with us as an issue.

Senator McCARTHY: At all?

Ms Spence: At all.

Senator STERLE: Helicopters?

Ms Spence: Not helicopters, no.

Supplementary information for the consideration by the Committee is as follows:

"Aircraft and helicopter noise is an ongoing concern for many communities around airports - the Department is aware of these concerns. In 2016, no new issues about noise from pilot training around airports have been raised with the Department. We are aware of correspondence this year to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Airservices Australia Noise Complaints and Information Service and the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman about noise associated with pilot training. However, we also understand that over the last three years, the number of complainants to the Noise Complaints and Information Service about aircraft noise from three of the largest pilot training airports (Jandakot, Moorabbin and Parafield) has decreased".

I would be pleased if you would note this advice for the information of the Committee.

I have copied this letter to Senator the Hon Fiona Nash and the Hon Darren Chester MP.

Yours sincerely



Pip Spence
A/g Deputy Secretary

15 November 2016