

- The Government is optimistic about the potential benefits of drone delivery services; from empowering local businesses to reach more customers, to cutting greenhouse gas emissions and making life easier for Canberrans living with mobility challenges. We are also interested in further exploring the wide range of situations and possible applications for drone technology, including in the context of Emergency Services.
- The ACT's engaged community and agile and responsive governance model are key factors that attract innovative businesses like Wing to trial and establish their services in the ACT.
- Wing has brought over \$5 million investment into the ACT to date. It has also provided an opportunity for the ACT Government and national regulators, such as the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), to consider the challenges and opportunities presented by emerging delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy and safety.

#### Community concerns

- The ACT Government Submission acknowledges that the world-leading drone delivery trials in the ACT have aggravated some residents, identifying genuine concerns that will need to be addressed by innovators.
- There is an imperative for industry to respond to risks and community concerns, and we encourage innovators to engage appropriately with the community and with government bodies.
- In addition to informing industry, the trials have provided an opportunity for the ACT Government and national regulators, such as the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), to learn about challenges and opportunities presented by emerging delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy and safety.
- The Government submission notes that Wing undertook mitigation measures in response to concerns raised during their most recent trial in Bonython, such as:
  - slowing down their drones;
  - trialing lower pitched and quieter drones;
  - changing their flight paths to avoid repeatedly flying over the same houses; and
  - conducting research into the impact on birds and wildlife.

#### **Background Information**

- The Committee is to report to the Assembly no later than the last sitting week in 2019.
- Concerns raised in the 145 submissions published by the Standing Committee have highlighted community concerns relating to Wing's drone testing including:
  - noise complaints;

Cleared as complete and accurate: 07/03/2019  
Cleared by: Executive Director Ext: 50230  
Contact Officer name: Eddy Webster Ext: 75975  
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development

- adequate notification about previous trials;
- environmental impacts concerning the effect of drones on disturbing local animal life and;
- division in communities who either support or are against drone delivery systems.
- There are also many submissions from Bonython Service users and others who are optimistic about what drone delivery technology can provide for our community.
- The Canberra Business Chamber is supportive of drone delivery services and notes in its submission to the inquiry that services may:
  - offer capacity to provide consumers with new and innovative options for product delivery;
  - allow small local firms to develop new markets for their goods; and
  - increase the overall quality of the customer experience.
- The Mitchell Traders Association also supports the use of commercial drone delivery in Canberra and notes in their submission that:
  - traders in the Mitchell precinct are openminded towards new technology;
  - understand the transformative impact that drones will have in the future; and
  - that drone-based deliveries will be beneficial to local ACT businesses and consumers who wish to use the service.

### ***Project Wing***

- Wing is an offshoot of Google's parent company Alphabet and is on the cutting edge of automated drone technology.
- The ACT Government provided Wing with a temporary licence for the Greenway site in February 2018. This licence expired on 15 February 2019 and Wing has indicated it will not seek an extension of this arrangement.
- Wing anticipates to begin drone delivery services in Mitchell, as part of a private lease in early 2019, it has not yet been issued a licence from CASA for these planned operations.
- Throughout the trial Wing has provided the Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate with monthly reporting on: safety incidents; the nature, volume and handling of complaints; and its volume of operations.

Cleared as complete and accurate: 07/03/2019  
Cleared by: Executive Director Ext: 50230  
Contact Officer name: Eddy Webster Ext: 75975  
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and  
Economic Development



## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on  
Advanced Technology and Space Industries  
Manager of Government Business  
Member for Brindabella

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for contacting the Chief Minister about your concerns with the proposed introduction of drone delivery services in Mitchell, ACT, by Wing. The Chief Minister has referred your correspondence to me as Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries.

As you note in your email, drone technology presents a number of complex challenges and Wing's drone trials have attracted community interest and commentary, both positive and negative. The technology also presents opportunities to attract economic growth, reduce transport carbon dioxide emissions, traffic congestion and increase independence and access to services for some members of the community.

The ACT Government recognises that disruptive technologies and business models will continue to emerge and is committed to a smart and innovative city mindset and engaging with emerging industries. This approach delivers competitive advantages, better outcomes and new opportunities for ACT businesses and the community, including future investment and employment opportunities. In engaging early in the development cycle of new technologies we seek to position Canberra as an adaptive and progressive city that can take advantage of new economic opportunities that will drive growth and create new and interesting jobs for Canberrans in the future.

As you already know, Wing has been trialling its business model in southern Canberra over the last two years. These trials have provided an opportunity for the community, ACT Government and national regulators like the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to learn about the challenges and opportunities presented by emerging delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy and safety. CASA has regulatory responsibility for the safe operation of drones throughout Australia, and Wing operations in the ACT are conducted under CASA's regulatory framework and close oversight. Wing has been issued with a licence by CASA to operate two trials in the ACT. The ACT Government does not approve drone operators, they are assessed by CASA and this involves a detailed consideration of technical aspects of the operational design and system performance to a proven safety standard.

---

### ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Phone +61 2 6205 0218 Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au)



@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman



The ACT Government notes that some residents in the Bonython area have raised concerns about the distinctive sound of Wing's drones and the origin of the sound (e.g. neighbours' backyards and open space beyond their boundary fences rather than street facing aspects of their home). Wing has responded to the concerns of community members regarding noise issues and has commenced testing lower pitched and quieter drones. It has also sought to reduce the impact of its service on individuals by slowing its drone vehicles down and modifying flight paths so they do not fly over the same areas repeatedly.

With regards to your concerns about privacy, any drone operator is required to adhere to the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1988* (the Act). The Act contains a number of privacy protections for the Australian public and sets out thirteen principles which govern how organisations must handle, use and manage personal information including the collection, storage, and disclosure of information. It is also worth noting the cameras used by the Wing drones are used for navigation and are deliberately very low resolution and not used for collecting any personal information including images.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention and sharing your concerns.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries

5/2/19

**From:**"Ives, Kieran"

**Sent:**21/02/2019 3:19 AM

**To:**"Rutledge, Geoffrey" <Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>

**Subject:**Wing Timeline of engagement

**Attachments:**Wing Timeline.pdf

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Geoffrey – this is my first go at a Timeline on wing based on records I am aware of.

Kind regards

Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)

Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

# Wing Timeline

Wednesday, 20 February 2019 16:06

## ROYALLA Trial

July 2017

Project Wing contacts ACT Government (EPSDD) seek advice on possible test site locations East of Canberra near Hume Highway.

Between July and September 2017

EPSDD provides a number of potential site locations, both private and Territory land that may be considered suitable for Wing's trial, the Guises Creek Fire station was one of these.

25 August 2017

Presentation on Project Wing Requirements

7 September 2017

Site inspection and purple pea identified as not locked on site.

11 September 2017

ESA Commissioner Dominic Lane indicated that the ESA supported the issuing of a 303 licence for Guises Creek.

29 September 2017

Executed licence - Guises Creek Station

8 October 2017

Minister Gentleman attends community day hosted by Wing at Royalla Common (317 Royalla Dr, Royalla NSW 2620) and sees demonstration of technology

9 October 2017

Wing commence Royalla flights and customer service tests

20 January 2018

Project Wing - RFS Drone - Demonstration & Discussion report

13 November 2017

Wing write to Chief Minister about Royalla

13 December 2017

Chief Minister writes to Wing in response acknowledging on going work with EPSDD on Greenway and Bonython

## Bonython Trial

21 December 2017

Canberra Town Planning on behalf of Project Wing - provide planning study for Temporary Licence - Part Block 16 Section 46 Greenway

3 January 2018

EPA (Narelle Sargent) endorse preliminary site investigation work

15 January 2018

Project Wing site description formalised

25 January 2018

Executed Interim Licence  
*Short term allowed wing to enter site, not operate.*

20 February 2018

Executed updated Licence  
*Final licence*

31 August 2018

Executed Deed of Variation  
*Extend licence to 15 February 2019 from 31 August 2018, noting flying had not commenced from July 2018.*

July 2018

Wing Commences flights in Bonython

11 February 2019

PCS undertake site inspection - happy with condition and provide advice on remediation works.

15 February 2019

Wing Greenway Licence Ceases

20 February 2019

Wing check on fence requirement and gravel removal

## Bird Study

19 February 2018

Wing confirmed that Wing would engage an independent consultants to conduct an impact assessment regarding the impact of drones on the local wildlife.

5 October 2018

Wing provides bird study

20 November 2018

EPSDD provides draft advice to Wing: noting we would like to discuss further.

## Monthly reports - Bonython

Wing have provided Monthly Reports on the Trial at Bonython. Given Wing were not flying between April and July Wing held off reporting for May and June and provided a consolidated report for May-July. This was agreed with ACT Government,



17. March Report



18. April ACT Report



July ACT report



August ACT report



September ACT report



October ACT report



November ACT report

We anticipate a December report and a January + February report shortly.

**From:**"Varlow, Trent" <Trent.Varlow@act.gov.au>

**Sent:**08/03/2019 6:06 AM

**To:**"Ives, Kieran" <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>

**Cc:**"Marcantonio, Laura" <Laura.Marcantonio@act.gov.au>

**Subject:**FW: DA 201834859 - Mitchell 27/38 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**Attachments:**COMPSTREET-201834859-01.pdf, ELEV-201834859-01.pdf, FLOOR-201834859-GROUND-01.pdf, LSCAPE-201834859-TURNING-01.pdf, PLAN-201834859-AREA-01.pdf, ROOF-201834859-01.pdf, SECTION-201834859-01.pdf, SEDIMENT-201834859-TREE-01.pdf, SITE-201834859-PROPOSED-01.pdf, 201834859.pdf

FYI

---

**From:** Varlow, Trent

**Sent:** Friday, 8 March 2019 5:05 PM

**To:** 'admin@canberratownplanning.com.au' <admin@canberratownplanning.com.au>

**Cc:** 'Pieter Van Der Walt' <Pieter@CanberraTownPlanning.com.au>

**Subject:** DA 201834859 - Mitchell 27/38 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Good afternoon,

Please see attached Notice of Decision and stamped plans for Mitchell 27/38 201834859.

Kind regards,

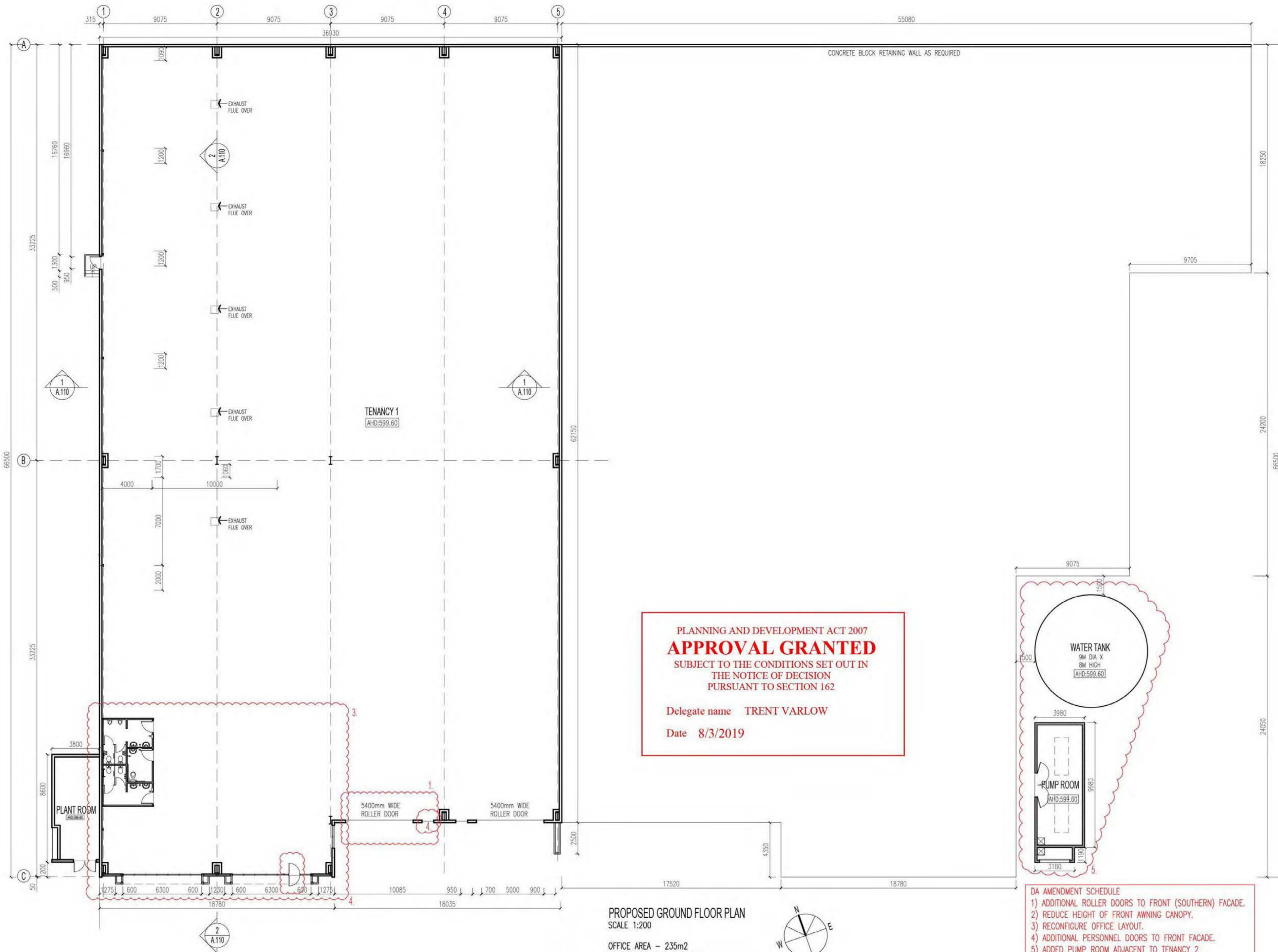
Trent Varlow

Development Assessment Coordinator







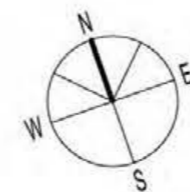


PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2007  
**APPROVAL GRANTED**  
 SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS SET OUT IN  
 THE NOTICE OF DECISION  
 PURSUANT TO SECTION 162  
  
 Delegate name **TRENT VARLOW**  
 Date **8/3/2019**

**PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN**  
 SCALE 1:200

OFFICE AREA - 235m<sup>2</sup>  
 WAREHOUSE AREA - 2140m<sup>2</sup>  
 PLANT ROOM AREA - 43m<sup>2</sup>

TOTAL TENANCY AREA - 2450m<sup>2</sup>



CONCRETE BLOCK RETAINING WALL AS REQUIRED

**GENERAL NOTES:**  
 ALL WORK TO BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS, BUILDING CODE OF AUSTRALIA AND LOCAL AUTHORITY REGULATIONS. EXCLUDE ALL WORK IN TRADESPERSON LINE MANNER AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDANT. ALL MEASUREMENTS IN MILLIMETRES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
 CONTRACTOR MUST VERIFY ALL DIMENSIONS ON SITE BEFORE COMMENCING ANY WORKS OR SHOP DRAWINGS. DO NOT SCALE DRAWINGS.

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**NORTH**

DOCUMENT ISSUE		
Date	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION

**PAUL TILSE ARCHITECTS**  
 TEL 6182 2050 MOB 0410 123 410  
 FAX 6182 2080 paultilse@netspeed.com.au  
 4/16 BOUGAINVILLE ST MANUKA ACT 2803

**DRAWING TITLE**  
 PROPOSED GROUND FLOOR PLAN

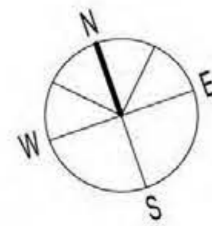
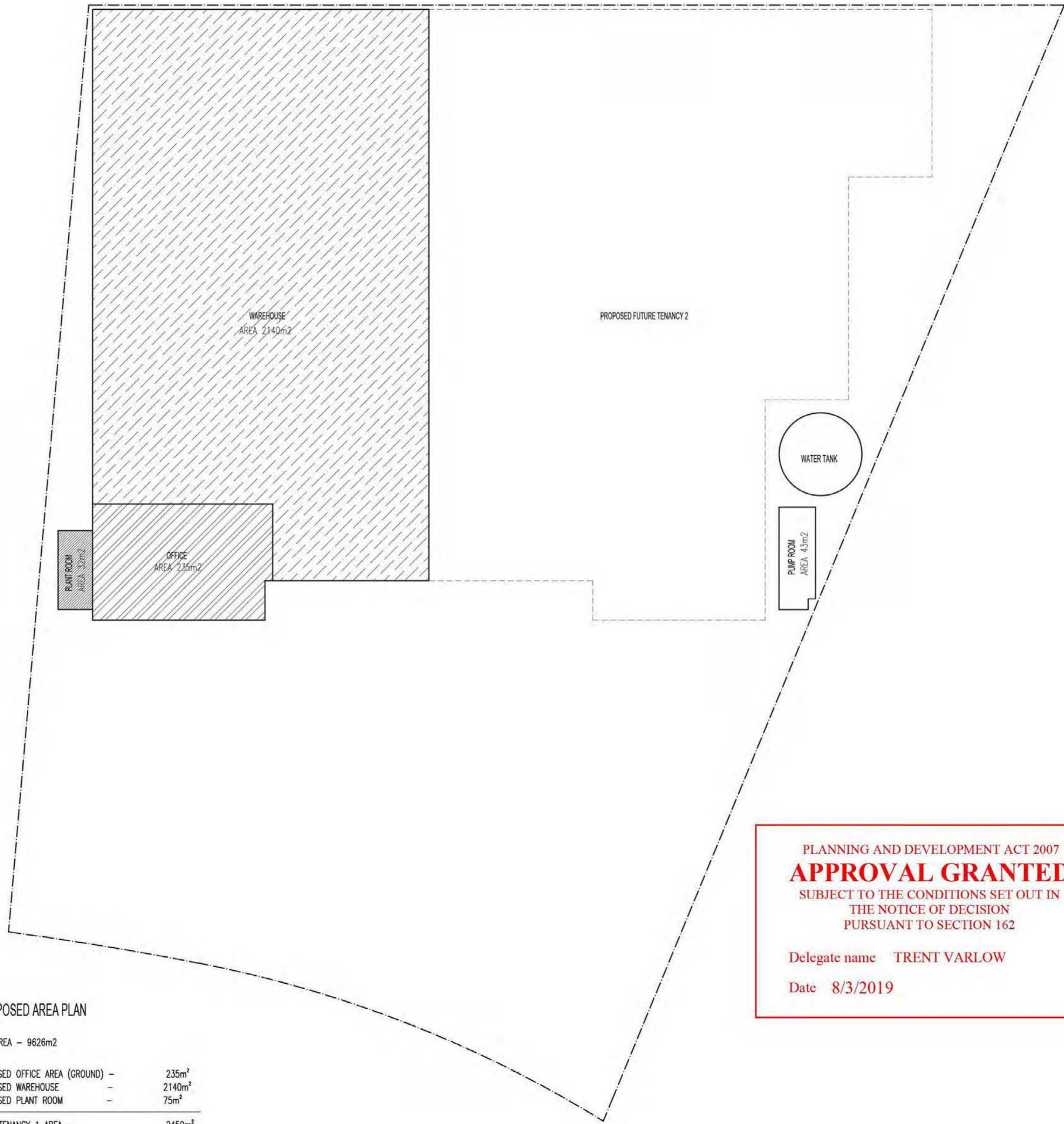
**CLIENT**  
 MITCHELL JV P/L

**PROJECT TITLE**  
 PROPOSED WAREHOUSE DEVELOPMENT  
 BLOCK 27 SECTION 38 MITCHELL  
 VICARS ROAD MITCHELL

SCALE	DRAWN	DATE
1:200 @ A2	PT	06.11.18
DRAWING NUMBER	REV. NO.	
A.106	E	

**DA AMENDMENT SCHEDULE**  
 1) ADDITIONAL ROLLER DOORS TO FRONT (SOUTHERN) FACADE.  
 2) REDUCE HEIGHT OF FRONT AWNING CANOPY.  
 3) RECONFIGURE OFFICE LAYOUT.  
 4) ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL DOORS TO FRONT FACADE.  
 5) ADDED PUMP ROOM ADJACENT TO TENANCY 2  
 6) ADDED WATER TANK ADJACENT TO TENANCY 2  
 7) RELOCATED & ENLARGED REFUSE ENCLOSURE  
 8) NEW MECHANICAL EXHAUST FLUE THRU ROOF  
 9) REDUCE SIZE OF PLANT ROOM ON WESTERN SIDE.  
 10) NEW EXHAUST VENT & COWLS TO ROOF.





**PROPOSED AREA PLAN**  
1:400

SITE AREA - 9626m<sup>2</sup>

PROPOSED OFFICE AREA (GROUND) -	235m <sup>2</sup>
PROPOSED WAREHOUSE -	2140m <sup>2</sup>
PROPOSED PLANT ROOM -	75m <sup>2</sup>

TOTAL TENANCY 1 AREA - 2450m<sup>2</sup>

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2007  
**APPROVAL GRANTED**  
 SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS SET OUT IN  
 THE NOTICE OF DECISION  
 PURSUANT TO SECTION 162

Delegate name TRENT VARLOW

Date 8/3/2019

GENERAL NOTES:

ALL WORK TO BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS, BUILDING CODE OF AUSTRALIA AND LOCAL AUTHORITY REGULATIONS. EXECUTE ALL WORK IN TRADESPERSON LIKE MANNER AND TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SUPERINTENDANT. ALL MEASUREMENTS IN MILLIMETRES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.  
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DOCUMENT ISSUE

Date	ISSUE	DESCRIPTION
04.10.16	A	DA SUBMISSION
16.11.16	B	REVISED CARPARK LAYOUT

PAUL TILSE ARCHITECTS

TEL 6162 2050 MCR 0410 123 410  
 FAX 6162 2080 paultilse@netspeed.com.au  
 4 / 16 BOUGAINVILLE ST MANUKA ACT 2603

DRAWING TITLE

PROPOSED AREA PLAN

CLIENT

MITCHELL JV P/L

PROJECT TITLE

PROPOSED WAREHOUSE DEVELOPMENT  
 BLOCK 27 SECTION 38 MITCHELL  
 VICARS ROAD MITCHELL

SCALE	DRAWN	DATE
N.T.S @ A2	PT	06.11.18

DRAWING NUMBER	REV. NO.
A.105	E













**ACT**  
Government

# NOTICE OF DECISION

Made under part 7 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*

I, Trent Varlow, delegate of the planning and land authority, pursuant to section 162 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, **approve subject to conditions**, the proposal for **building classification change from 7b to 8, façade changes, reduction to the existing plant room and store room, construction of a new pump room and above ground water tank, relocation and enlargement of waste enclosure, installation of additional site services and associated site works**, at Block 27 Section 38 Mitchell, in accordance with the plans, drawings and other documentation approved and endorsed as forming part of this approval.

DA Number: 201834859  
Block: 27  
Section: 38  
Suburb: Mitchell  
Application lodged: 26 November 2018  
Assessment track: Merit

This decision contains the following information:

- Part A – conditions of approval
- Part B– reasons for the Decision
- Part C – public notification & entity advice
- Attachment 1 – administrative information

*A copy of the development application and this approval may be inspected at the planning and land authority's office from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, Monday to Friday at 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT 2602*

Contact:  
Development Assessment  
Enquiries  
DAenquiries@act.gov.au  
6207 6383

**Trent Varlow**  
Delegate of the planning and land authority  
8 March 2019

## NOTICE OF DECISION

DA 201834859

### PART A – CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

This application is approved subject to the following conditions being satisfied. Some conditions of the approval require attention before work commences or before approved drawings will be released.

#### 1. NOISE

Any noise management measures or noise standards/requirements, that are enforced by Airservices Australia and the associated legislation/regulations must be complied with prior to and/or during the use of drones on the site (if applicable).

Note: Noise from aircraft, including drones, is regulated by Airservices Australia (a Commonwealth agency), and is exempt from the *Environment Protection Act 1997* (Section 8(1)(b)).

#### 2. PROPOSED USE OF THE SITE

Documents submitted with the application suggest a use of the site that may not be consistent with the Crown lease. You may submit a development application for the variation of the Crown lease to permit the development. Alternatively, you may wish to apply for a lease interpretation to determine if the intended use is permitted by the Crown lease. For further information please contact DA Leasing at [ACTPLADALeasing@act.gov.au](mailto:ACTPLADALeasing@act.gov.au) or 6207 5403.

#### 3. BUSHFIRE

Buildings are constructed to Australian Standard AS3959 – Construction of buildings in bushfire prone areas for the specified Bushfire Attack Level.

#### 4. LICENSE

Any licence required under s303 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*, or the *Public Unleased Lands Act 2013*, must be obtained prior to use of the site for purpose of which the license is being obtained (if applicable)

#### 5. ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

A site specific unexpected finds protocol (UFP) must be prepared by a suitably qualified environmental consultant to manage potentially contaminated material identified during development of the site. The UFP must be implemented during development works at the site.

All soil subject to disposal from the site must be assessed in accordance with EPA Information Sheet 4 - Requirements for the reuse and disposal of contaminated soil in the ACT.

No soil is to be disposed from site without EPA approval.

All works must be carried out in accordance with Environment Protection Guidelines for Construction & Land Development in the ACT, March 2011, available at [www.environment.act.gov.au](http://www.environment.act.gov.au) or by calling 132281.

## NOTICE OF DECISION

DA 201834859

### ADVICE

All rain water that enters the site and pools in excavations during a rain storm event would be considered as a sediment control pond, and must meet the following condition:

No discharge from pond unless sediment level is less than 60mg/litre. If sediment level is greater, then prior to discharge, the dam must be dosed with either Alum or Gypsum and allowed to settle until the sediment is less than 60 mg/litre.

For further information please contact the Environment Protection Authority Planning Liaison on 02 6207 5642.

### 6. TREE PROTECTION

The Development application can be supported, provided it is a condition of approval that all works are in accordance with the Proposed Site Plan, Drawing Number. A102 Dated 06.11.18 and the Proposed Landscape Plan/ Truck Turning Diagram, Drawing Number, A103, Dated 06.11.18. The Tree Protection Zone must be established prior to commencement of construction and must remain in place until all works are completed.

## NOTICE OF DECISION

DA 201834859

### PART B – REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The application was approved because it was found to meet the relevant rules and criteria of the Territory Plan and section 120 of the *Planning and Development Act 2007*.

The following evidence formed part of the assessment of this application:

Development Application:	201834859
Territory Plan Zones:	IZ1
Development Codes:	Industrial Zones Development Code
Precinct Code:	Mitchell Precinct Map and Code
Legislative requirements:	Sections 119 and 120 of the <i>Planning and Development Act 2007</i> Icon Water, EvoEnergy, Gas Jemena, Environment Protection Authority, Transport Canberra and City Services and Tree Protection unit
Entity advice:	

### PART C – PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND ENTITY ADVICE

#### PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

Pursuant to Division 7.3.4 of the Act, the application was publicly notified from 30 november 2018 to 21 December 2018. One written representation was received during public notification period.

The main issues raised were as follows. Comments are provided as appropriate.

#### NOISE & USE:

The proposed DA is for building classification change from 7b to 8, façade changes, reduction to the existing plant room and store room, construction of a new pump room and above ground water tank, relocation and enlargement of waste enclosure, installation of additional site services and associated site works.

This Development Application does not include adding uses to the existing Crown Lease. Any future uses that are required to be added will undergo a separate development application. This will consider any potential impacts (including noise) that the use proposes.

Please note that Noise from aircraft, including drones, is regulated by Airservices Australia (a Commonwealth agency), and is exempt from the *Environment Protection Act 1997* (Section 8(1)(b)). Please see condition A1 in regards to potential noise impacts for future uses. Please see condition A2 that specifies the requirement for a lease variation for potential future uses.

## NOTICE OF DECISION

DA 201834859

### ENTITY ADVICE

Pursuant to Division 7.3.3 of the *Planning and Development Act*, the application was referred to the below entities. Where an entity requested conditions to be imposed on this development, those conditions have been incorporated into Part A of this Decision. A summary of entity comments can be found below.

1. Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS).

TCCS provided advice on 29 November 2018 stating that the proposal is supported.

2. Icon Water.

The applicant provided a statement of conditional compliance from Icon Water dated 19 February 2019 stating that the proposal is supported subject to conditions. Please refer to Attachment A for conditions.

3. Environment Protection Authority (EPA).

EPA provided advice on 18 December 2018 stating that the proposal is supported subject to conditions. Please refer to Part A for conditions.

4. EvoEnergy

The applicant provided a statement of conditional compliance from EvoEnergy dated 19 February 2019 stating that the proposal is supported subject to conditions. Please refer to Attachment B for conditions.

5. Gas Jemena

The applicant provided a statement of conditional compliance from Gas Jemena dated 19 February 2019 stating that the proposal is supported subject to conditions. Please refer to Attachment C for conditions.

6. Tree Protection Unit (TPU)

TPU provided advice on 17 December 2018 stating that the proposal is supported subject to conditions. Please refer to Part A for conditions.

## NOTICE OF DECISION

DA 201834859

### Translation and interpretation services

The ACT Government's translation and interpreter service runs 24 hours a day, every day of the week by calling 131 450.

ENGLISH	If you need interpreting help, telephone:
ARABIC	: إذا احتجت لمساعدة في الترجمة الشفوية ، إتصل برقم الهاتف :
CHINESE	如果你需要传译员的帮助，请打电话：
CROATIAN	Ako trebate pomoć tumača telefonirajte:
GREEK	Αν χρειάζεστε διερμηνέα τηλεφωνήσετε στο
ITALIAN	Se avete bisogno di un interprete, telefonate al numero:
MALTESE	Jekk għandek bżonn l-għajnuna t'interpretu, ċempel:
PERSIAN	: اگر به ترجمه شفاهی احتیاج دارید به این شماره تلفن کنید:
PORTUGUESE	Se você precisar da ajuda de um intérprete, telefone:
SERBIAN	Ако вам је потребна помоћ преводиоца телефонирајте:
SPANISH	Si necesita la asistencia de un intérprete, llame al:
TURKISH	Tercümana ihtiyacımız varsa lütfen telefon ediniz:
VIETNAMESE	Nếu bạn cần một người thông-ngôn-hãy gọi điện-thoại:

### **TRANSLATING AND INTERPRETING SERVICE**

# **131 450**

Canberra and District - 24 hours a day, seven days a week



**Australian Government**  
**Civil Aviation Safety Authority**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CASA Ref: G19/318

09 April 2019

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA  
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Mr Gordon Ramsay MLA  
Attorney-General

ACT Legislative Assembly  
GPO Box 1020  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Ministers Gentleman and Ramsay

**Exemption to permit drone delivery operations by Wing Aviation Pty Ltd**

I am writing to inform you that on 5 April 2019, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) signed an exemption to permit drone delivery operations by Wing Aviation Pty Ltd (Wing) in Mitchell and certain surrounding suburbs.

Wing was required to submit a safety case to CASA as part of the application process. The safety case included information relating to reliability of the drones and the results of collision testing. The CASA assessment shows Wing met or exceeded an acceptable level of safety across all the elements of the approval process.

The exemption allows Wing to fly only the Hummingbird Quiet Hover Propulsion RPA over homes and streets in Mitchell, Crace, Franklin and Harrison and adjoining open space, with the following conditions:

- The aircraft must not be operated over public gatherings.
- The operator may only conduct operations over or within 50m of residential suburbs during the following hours:
  - Monday to Friday 0700-2000
  - Sunday and public holidays 0800-2000.
- Wing only deliver to a location where a person has chosen to take part in deliveries.
- People receiving drone deliveries are fully briefed about safety.

The exemption can be accessed via the CASA website at <https://www.casa.gov.au/sites/default/files/casa-instrument-40-2019-remotely-piloted-aircraft-operation-approved-areas-of-canberra.pdf>

Should you require further information, please contact Ms Carolyn Hutton, Branch Manager Government and International Relations on 02 6217 1390 or at [carolyn.hutton@casa.gov.au](mailto:carolyn.hutton@casa.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

Graeme M. Crawford  
Acting Chief Executive Officer and  
Director of Aviation Safety

**From:** "Perry, Ryan" <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>

**Sent:** 16/04/2019 2:35 PM

**To:** "Bauer, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Bauer@act.gov.au>; "Webster, Eddy" <Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: ACT Remotely Piloted Aircraft Operations [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI

Ryan Perry | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | +61 2 6207 7608

---

**From:** Engele, Sam

**Sent:** Tuesday, 16 April 2019 2:33 PM

**To:** Perry, Ryan <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** Fwd: ACT Remotely Piloted Aircraft Operations [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** WOLFE Jim <[Jim.Wolfe@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Jim.Wolfe@infrastructure.gov.au)>

**Date:** 16 April 2019 at 12:59:41 pm AEST

**To:** "[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)" <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>

**Cc:** MCARTHUR Russell <[Russell.McArthur@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:Russell.McArthur@infrastructure.gov.au)>

**Subject:** ACT Remotely Piloted Aircraft Operations [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Sam

Appreciated the opportunity to have a chat yesterday.

For your information, below are points we are using to respond to any media inquiries on the RPA demonstration flights.

Look forward to catching up in the future.

Regards

Jim

- The Department has approved demonstration flights commencing on 11 April 2019 by Wing under the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018.
- Feedback from these flights will form part of the Department's ongoing consideration of Wing's future planned operations in the A.C.T under the noise regulations.
- The Department continues to review the past and future application of the noise regulations to drone operations.
- The Department will consult with other interested parties including other Government agencies, industry and community stakeholders in reviewing the regulations.

Jim Wolfe

General Manager - Aviation Environment

Aviation and Airports Division

Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

t 02 6274 7611

e [jim.wolfe@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:jim.wolfe@infrastructure.gov.au) | w [www.infrastructure.gov.au](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au)



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**From:** "Perry, Ryan" <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>

**Sent:** 16/04/2019 2:23 PM

**To:** "Bauer, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Bauer@act.gov.au>; "Webster, Eddy" <Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI – apologies for not passing this on sooner.

Ryan Perry | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | +61 2 6207 7608

---

**From:** Engele, Sam

**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 3:58 PM

**To:** Perkins, Anita <Anita.Perkins@act.gov.au>; Dolan, Fiona <Fiona.Dolan@act.gov.au>; Faerber, Jen

<Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>; Ives, Kieran <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>; Rutledge, Geoffrey

<Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>; Perry, Ryan <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>

**Cc:** Starick, Kate <Kate.Starick@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

All,

FYI: CASA has provided a notification that they have approved Wing to undertake drone deliveries from its Mitchell facility.

I'm just confirming with CASA whether there is a public announcement / notification – will come back with the answer.

Regards,

Sam

---

**From:** Gumley, Luke <Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au>

**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 3:51 PM

**To:** Starick, Kate <Kate.Starick@act.gov.au>; Engele, Sam <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Kate and Sam

On 5 April 2019, CASA signed an exemption to permit drone delivery operations by Wing Aviation Pty Ltd (Wing) for Mitchell and certain surrounding suburbs. Below are some dot points:

- The exemption is one of several instruments that CASA has issued to Wing that together permit drone deliveries.
- Wing will use next generation aircraft that are quieter than those used in the Bonython trial, along with dynamic flight paths to minimise potential noise impacts.
- Wing was required to submit a safety case to CASA as part of the application process for the trial. The safety case included information relating to reliability of the drones and the results of collision testing.
- The aircraft system is designed to be highly automated and fault tolerant, requiring multiple failures for the aircraft to enter a non-normal state.
- The approval was assessed by CASA using the Joint Authorities for Rulemaking on Unmanned Systems, Specific Operation Risk Assessment (SORA) methodology and toolkit.

- The CASA assessment shows Wing met or exceeded an acceptable level of safety across all the elements of the SORA process.

#### **Exemption instrument for Mitchell**

- CASA's instrument allows Wing to fly only the Hummingbird Quiet Hover Propulsion RPA over homes and streets in Mitchell, Crace, Franklin and Harrison and adjoining open space.
- The aircraft must not be operated over public gatherings.
- The operator may only conduct operations over or within 50m of residential suburbs during the following hours:
  - Monday to Friday 0700-2000
  - Sunday and public holidays 0800-2000.
- Wing only deliver to a location where a person has chosen to take part in deliveries. People receiving drone deliveries are fully briefed about safety.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Regards

**Luke Gumley**

Branch Manager Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)

RPAS Branch

National Operations & Standards

**CASA\Aviation Group**

**p:** +61 2 6217 1772 **m:** +61 413 300 166

Aviation House, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip ACT 2606

GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601

[www.casa.gov.au](http://www.casa.gov.au)



*CASA acknowledges the traditional custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.*

-----  
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Member for Brindabella

Manager of Government Business  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Urban Renewal

18/07197

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your letter of 13 March 2018 regarding Project Wing's trial in Bonython. I am responding on behalf of the Chief Minister as the matter is within my portfolio responsibilities.

Project Wing's delivery drones are an entirely new business model. This trial provides an opportunity to learn about the challenges and opportunities presented by delivery drones, including the impacts on the community including our pets. Accordingly, I appreciate your feedback.

The Bonython trial follows a separate five month trial of the technology with Royalla community from October 2017 to February 2018. I understand that this trial was popular with local residents and that Project Wing considered the trial a success. I encourage you to continue to convey any concerns or questions you have with Project Wing to Luke Barrington, in the first instance.

Regarding privacy, I can confirm that the ACT Government's licence for the trial is subject to complying with the Commonwealth's *Privacy Act 1988*. The Privacy Principles under the Act impose strict conditions on both the security and permitted use of personal information, and I do note your caution regarding companies not following their privacy policies.

The safe operation of drones is regulated by the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). CASA has provided Project Wing with approval for the trial. It is also relevant to note that Project Wing has a limit to its operating hours, to the same standard that we have for activities such as mowing the lawn: 7am-8pm weekdays and 8am to 8pm on weekends.

I agree with you that Bonython is close to the Hyperdome and many retail opportunities, so the need for delivery services is not as high as other areas. But, this is a trial of a new service, and I am sure you could imagine that for some in our community the ease of access to home delivery would be beneficial.

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au)



@GENTLEMANMick

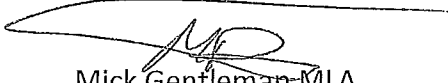


MickGentleman

COPY

I hope this information has been of assistance to you, thank you again for your correspondence.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman-MLA  
Minister for Planning and Land Management

11/4/17

**Andrew Barr MLA**  
**Chief Minister**

COPY



Member for Kurrajong  
Treasurer  
Minister for Economic Development  
Minister for Tourism and Major Events

18/07886

Joy Burch MLA  
Member for Brindabella  
[Joy.Burch@parliament.act.gov.au](mailto:Joy.Burch@parliament.act.gov.au)

Dear Ms Burch 

Thank you for your letter of 14 March 2018 regarding Project Wing's delivery drone trial in Bonython. I understand you may have already visited Project Wing's site in Greenway and received a briefing from the local Project Wing staff.

Ms Cutts, the author of the letter enclosed in your correspondence, also wrote to Minister Gentleman, I have enclosed a copy of Minister Gentleman's response. I can also advise Project Wing as well as ACT government officials have contacted the Tuggeranong Dog Training Club regarding their concerns. I understand Project Wing are working to be a positive neighbor and to not adversely impact the club's operations.

I am advised that Project Wing have engaged with the community via a letter drop to all affected Bonython residents, hosting a local barbecue with over 100 attendees and undertaking door knocking in the area. Project Wing have also reached out to a number of local stakeholders including the Tuggeranong Community Council.

The ACT Government's role has been to facilitate the use of the Greenway site through a temporary licence for the land. This has included imposing conditions on Project Wing including a requirement for compliance with the *Privacy Act 1988*, and limiting operating hours to the same standards we have for activities such as mowing the lawn: 7am-8pm weekdays, and 8am-8pm on weekends.

Whereas, the safe operation of drones is regulated by the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). CASA provided Project Wing with approval for the trial.

I hope this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Barr MLA  
Chief Minister

13 APR 2018

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

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**From:** "Access Canberra Contact Centre" <AccessCanberraContactCentre@act.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 30/08/2018 11:51 AM  
**To:** "Faerber, Jen" <Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>; "Pedley, Amy" <Amy.Pedley@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "Access Canberra Contact Centre" <AccessCanberraContactCentre@act.gov.au>; "Spulak, Karl" <Karl.Spulak@act.gov.au>; "Bradford, James" <James.Bradford@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Updated info for Contact Centre staff - drones in Tuggeranong [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Team,

There has been a renewed interest in Drones after an open day in 12/08 and a story on ABC Drive.

Jen had mentioned there is a SME but I think we declined being provided his details originally, as we had preferred to go through CRM/Whole of Gov feedback.

We are going to run these incidents via the AC Complaints Management Team for triage.

May I please have the details for the SME (for CMT, we won't be providing it directly to the agents on the phone) and also would you mind reviewing the below earlier provided info also?

Thanks in advance

JT

---

**From:** Faerber, Jen  
**Sent:** Friday, 13 April 2018 6:19 PM  
**To:** Access Canberra Contact Centre <[AccessCanberraContactCentre@act.gov.au](mailto:AccessCanberraContactCentre@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Thomson, Josh <[Josh.Thomson@act.gov.au](mailto:Josh.Thomson@act.gov.au)>; Pedley, Amy <[Amy.Pedley@act.gov.au](mailto:Amy.Pedley@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** JT: FAQ UPDATED - Updated info for Contact Centre staff - drones in Tuggeranong [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Josh and team,

Please see amended talking points below on Project Wing/drones in Canberra.

I've changed all references of "Tuggeranong" to "Bonython" and clarified that CASA is only concerned with drone safety.

If Contact Centre staff are uncomfortable refuting a person who has a complaint about Project Wing, please encourage the caller to submit their feedback via the Access Canberra website. The subject matter expert is replying to all written feedback/comments/concerns.

Thanks for adding this to your hot topics list!

Jen

If you receive any calls about drones in Tuggeranong, they're probably related to Project Wing.

**In short:**

- Residents should not be concerned if they see a drone operating in Bonython.
- The Project Wing drones are white and yellow. They are shaped a bit like a plane, with fixed wings rather than 4 rotors like other common drone models.
- Project Wing is a drone delivery trial run by Google's sister company "X".
- Project Wing has (as of Sunday 25 February) commenced operations at their new site in Bonython, near Athllon Drive and Pine Island Road.
- Project Wing has safety approvals from the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to carry out their trials.
- Any privacy concerns, questions about the drones or questions about the trial can be referred to Project Wing. Any concerns about safety can be reported to CASA.

**How the ACT Government is involved:**

- The ACT Government has facilitated the use of the new site in Bonython, for Project Wing to continue its world-first drone delivery trials.
- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate has issued a licence to Project Wing, to operate on unleased government land near Pine Island Road and Athllon Drive in Bonython.
- The licence requires Project Wing to comply with the ACT's planning legislation, and the Territory is being reimbursed for use of the site at market rate.
- The licence is subject to Project Wing complying with the Commonwealth's Privacy Act and limiting operating hours to the same standard that we have for activities such as mowing the lawn: 7am-8pm weekdays, and 8am-8pm on weekends.
- While the sound of the drone will be unfamiliar to many people, it's only as noisy as a washing machine or dishwasher.
- Project Wing's decision to operate in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
- Drone delivery is an exciting new frontier, with potential to provide consumers with choice, convenience, and speedy delivery, even in remote locations. Drone delivery could also support emergency responders in bad weather and disaster situations.
- Project Wing will keep the ACT Government informed on the trial as it progresses.

**If you get an enquiry about Project Wing:**

- All enquiries about Project Wing, their drones, the trial, privacy or other concerns can be passed on to Project Wing: email [wing-au@x.team](mailto:wing-au@x.team) or visit <http://www.x.company/wing/australia/>.
- Only drone safety enquiries should be directed to CASA: phone 131 757.

Jen Faerber | Senior Communications Officer, Strategic Communications and Media

Phone: 02 6207 8646

Communications & Engagement | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

Level 5, Canberra Nara Centre, 1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra City | GPO Box 158 Canberra City ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)





**From:** "Faerber, Jen" <Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>

**Sent:** 27/09/2018 1:17 AM

**To:** "Clark, Rebecca" <RebeccaM.Clark@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: Updated info for Contact Centre staff - drones in Tuggeranong [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Bec,

Here's the advice Access Canberra has on hand to respond to any enquiries. We had a 'hot issues' watch on drones/Project Wing earlier this year and zero calls were received at the Access Canberra Contact Centre over 3 months.

I'm just finding my TPs.

Jen

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**From:** Faerber, Jen

**Sent:** Friday, 13 April 2018 6:19 PM

**To:** Access Canberra Contact Centre <AccessCanberraContactCentre@act.gov.au>

**Cc:** Thomson, Josh <Josh.Thomson@act.gov.au>; Pedley, Amy <Amy.Pedley@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** Updated info for Contact Centre staff - drones in Tuggeranong [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Josh and team,

Please see amended talking points below on Project Wing/drones in Canberra.

I've changed all references of "Tuggeranong" to "Bonython" and clarified that CASA is only concerned with drone safety.

If Contact Centre staff are uncomfortable refuting a person who has a complaint about Project Wing, please encourage the caller to submit their feedback via the Access Canberra website. The subject matter expert is replying to all written feedback/comments/concerns.

Thanks for adding this to your hot topics list!

Jen

If you receive any calls about drones in Tuggeranong, they're probably related to Project Wing.

**In short:**

- Residents should not be concerned if they see a drone operating in Bonython.
- The Project Wing drones are white and yellow. They are shaped a bit like a plane, with fixed wings rather than 4 rotors like other common drone models.
- Project Wing is a drone delivery trial run by Google's sister company "X".
- Project Wing has (as of Sunday 25 February) commenced operations at their new site in Bonython, near Athllon Drive and Pine Island Road.
- Project Wing has safety approvals from the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to carry out their trials.
- Any privacy concerns, questions about the drones or questions about the trial can be referred to Project Wing. Any concerns about safety can be reported to CASA.

**How the ACT Government is involved:**

- The ACT Government has facilitated the use of the new site in Bonython, for Project Wing to continue its world-first drone delivery trials.
- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate has issued a licence to Project Wing, to operate on unleased government land near Pine Island Road and Athllon Drive in Bonython.
- The licence requires Project Wing to comply with the ACT's planning legislation, and the Territory is being reimbursed for use of the site at market rate.
- The licence is subject to Project Wing complying with the Commonwealth's Privacy Act and limiting operating hours to the same standard that we have for activities such as mowing the lawn: 7am-8pm weekdays, and 8am-8pm on weekends.
- While the sound of the drone will be unfamiliar to many people, it's only as noisy as a washing machine or dishwasher.

- Project Wing's decision to operate in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
- Drone delivery is an exciting new frontier, with potential to provide consumers with choice, convenience, and speedy delivery, even in remote locations. Drone delivery could also support emergency responders in bad weather and disaster situations.
- Project Wing will keep the ACT Government informed on the trial as it progresses.

**If you get an enquiry about Project Wing:**

- All enquiries about Project Wing, their drones, the trial, privacy or other concerns can be passed on to Project Wing: email [wing-au@x.team](mailto:wing-au@x.team) or visit <http://www.x.company/wing/australia/>.
- Only drone safety enquiries should be directed to CASA: phone 131 757.

Jen Faerber | Senior Communications Officer, Strategic Communications and Media

Phone: 02 6207 8646

Communications & Engagement | Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

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## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Member for Ginninderra

**E-MAILED**  
19/09/18

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your email of 13 September 2018 to Minister Stephen-Smith regarding the Bonython drone delivery trial being undertaken by Project Wing. I am responding as the Minister with portfolio responsibility for this issue.

I understand that this is an issue of significant concern for you; a concern that is shared by many in your community. Preliminary policy work to consider a specific ACT regulatory framework for the use of drones is underway. The ACT Government is investigating the consequences of drone operation in our community and this process will be informed by feedback. Your feedback will be considered as part of this body of work.

You would be aware Project Wing's delivery drones are a new model of product delivery. The trial will allow us to better understand the opportunities and challenges which this technology presents to our community. The Bonython trial follows a separate five month trial of the technology with the Royalla community from October 2017 to February 2018, which Project Wing considered to be a success.

In addition to commercial application, we are keen to understand how emergency services might use the technology to transport drinking water, food, medical supplies, and mechanical parts to their workers and volunteers operating in rural areas or in urban environments cut off due to floods and fires. The ability of drones to navigate and deliver items across the urban landscapes of Royalla and Bonython will thus provide an evidence base upon which to test such application of these remotely piloted aircraft.

At the moment, CASA regulates the frequency and safety of drone operations in the ACT. CASA have provided Project Wing with approval for the trial. The *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998* Part 101 combines the rules governing Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), and under the civil aviation rules and regulations, drone users must not put people, aircrafts or any property in harm's way. CASA is currently in the process of conducting a consultation as part of its review of Part 101 rules.

Further requirements within the ACT Government's licence to Project Wing include, complying with the Federal *Privacy Act 1988* and limits to their operating hours. The Privacy Principles under the Act impose strict conditions on both the security and permitted use of personal information. The licence

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Phone +61 2 6205 2615    Email [ramsay@act.gov.au](mailto:ramsay@act.gov.au)



@Gordon\_R\_Ramsay



Gordon Ramsay MLA



limits the operating hours of the trial to 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 8pm on Sunday. This is similar to other restrictions placed on activities that create noise in suburban areas such as lawn mowing.

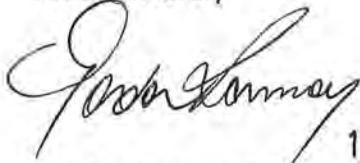
Project Wing has kept CASA and the ACT Government informed about potential safety incidents. Since starting the service in Bonython, a number of aircraft have landed away from the take-off site while making deliveries. Project Wing has indicated that these were controlled landings initiated by the aircraft's safety system. These safety systems are designed precautionary measures that trigger slow and controlled landings to mitigate potential risks to people and property.

Project Wing have indicated that feedback like yours is important to informing the outcomes of the trial. More information on how to contact Project Wing can be found on their website:

[https://x.company/intl/en\\_au/wing/australia/](https://x.company/intl/en_au/wing/australia/)

Thank you again for contacting the ACT Government with your concerns, I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Ramsay', written in a cursive style.

19 OCT 2018

Gordon Ramsay MLA



## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Member for Ginninderra

2.2(a)(ii)

**E-MAILED**  
19-10-18

Thank you for your email of 14 September 2018 about Project Wing's delivery drone trial in Bonython. I note that you contacted the Chief Minister though ABC talkback Radio 666. I am responding to you as the Minister with portfolio responsibility for this issue.

As you have experienced, Project Wing's delivery drones are trialling a new model of product delivery. When Project Wing was issued a licence to run the ACT trial, consideration was given to the ways in which the trial will allow us to better understand the opportunities and challenges this technology presents.

In anticipation of the noise caused by flights, the ACT Government's licence limits Project Wing's operating hours to the same standard for noisy neighbourhood activities: 7am-8pm weekdays and 8am-8pm on weekends. From the description in your correspondence, this accords with your experience and your point of concern is the number and consistency of drone flights over your home rather than the hours of operation. You have identified shift workers, infants, and unwell people as having the need to rest periods during the day hours in which drones are permitted to fly. You have also raised concerns about animals and bird life. Owing to these, and other interests presented to government, preliminary policy work is underway to consider a specific ACT regulatory framework for the use of drones. Your feedback will be considered as part of this body of work.

Additionally, Project Wing is seeking feedback from residents to evaluate the trial through its website and I would encourage you to use this avenue to provide your experiences. The Bonython trial follows a separate five month trial of the technology with the Royalla community from October 2017 to February 2018, which Project Wing considered to be a success. Given the higher density of residences in suburbs like Bonython compared to the semi-rural dispersal of homes in the earlier trial this feedback will be of vital significance to Project Wing and can be submitted at:

<http://www.x.company/wing/contact/>

While the ACT Government provided a licence with restrictions on Project Wing this area of law is currently owned by the Commonwealth because drones are considered aircraft. The relevant regulatory scheme is managed by the federal Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and this is outside the control of the ACT Government. CASA regulates both the frequency and safety of drone

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@Gordon\_R\_Ramsay



Gordon Ramsay MLA



operations and provided Project Wing with approval for the trial. As I outlined above, the ACT Government is investigating the consequences of drone operation in our community with a view to providing a framework of local rules for operating drones in addition to those of the Commonwealth.

The ACT government is keen to understand how non-commercial application of this technology might benefit the community. One example would be emergency services using the technology to transport drinking water, food, medical supplies, and mechanical parts to their workers and volunteers operating in rural areas or in urban environments cut off due to floods and fires. The ability of drones to navigate and deliver items across the urban landscapes of Royalla and Bonython will thus provide an evidence base upon which to test such application of these remotely piloted aircraft for community benefit.

I hope this information has been of assistance to you and thank you again for your correspondence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Ramsay', written in a cursive style.

Gordon Ramsay MLA  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services

19 OCT 2018

**From:** "Potter, Chantel" <Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au>

**Sent:** 02/11/2018 2:11 PM

**To:** 2.2(a)(i)

**Cc:** "Clark, Rebecca" <RebeccaM.Clark@act.gov.au>; "Webster, Eddy" <Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** Wing Drone Trial Bonython [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Jesse,

I am leading the team in ACT government responsible for the work around the drone trial from a whole of government perspective. I was wondering if we could please have a phone call to discuss having a meeting about the Bonython trial?

Thanks,

Kind Regards,

Chantel Potter  
A/g Senior Manager  
Regulation and Productivity  
Policy and Cabinet  
6207 4780



### Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality

Minister for Tourism and Special Events

Minister for Trade, Industry and Investment

Member for Kurrajong

18/29555

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your letters of 30 September, 5 October and 10 October 2018 about the Project Wing Bonython drone delivery trial. I am also responding on behalf of Minister Gentleman and the Government.

Project Wing are trialling an entirely new business model that utilises drones that are functionally different from most recreation drones that the community are familiar with. This trial provides an opportunity for the ACT and national regulators (including the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and Australian Privacy Commissioner) to learn about challenges and opportunities presented by emerging delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy and safety.

The ACT Government's role in the trial has been to facilitate a temporary licence for the use of a site in Greenway for the take-off and storage of drones. CASA, the entity responsible for regulating the safe operation of drones throughout Australia, has also provided Project Wing approval for the trial in Bonython.

The ACT Government licence for the trial is subject to Project Wing complying with the Australian *Privacy Act 1988*. The Privacy Principles under the Act impose strict conditions on both the security and permitted use of personal information.

The licence also limits the operating hours of the trial to 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 8pm on Sunday. This is similar to restrictions placed on other activities that create noise in suburban areas like lawn mowing. I understand feedback from residents has led Project Wing to consider changing their hours of operation. In addition to this I am informed by Project Wing that they have modified delivery routes as well as slowed down their drones, to reduce the noise impact further. Data from the trial has also helped improve the drones, making them quieter. These drone will be demonstrated in the coming weeks.

As a condition of CASA's approval and the ACT Government licence, Project Wing have kept CASA and the ACT Government informed about potential safety incidents. From the start of the service in

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@ABarrMLA



AndrewBarrMLA



actchiefminister





Bonython in July 2018 to September 2018, there have been no safety incidents. While a number of aircraft have landed away from the take-off site while making deliveries, Project Wing have indicated that these were controlled landings initiated by safety systems. These safety systems are a precautionary measure that trigger slow and controlled landings and mitigate risks to people and property.

Following community concerns about noise, privacy and safety relating to drone use in the ACT, the Government has commenced considerations on the appropriateness of a specific ACT regulatory framework for the use of drones. The Project Wing's monthly reports on the status of the trial and community commentary on the operation of drones in the ACT (not just the Bonython drone delivery services) are informing this work. Your feedback about the Project Wing trial will be considered as part of this body of work.

I also note your specific questions on the status of the Project Wing Bonython trial and the company's intention to seek another site from which to operate in the ACT.

Project Wing were granted a temporary licence for a Greenway site in February 2018, this licence expires on 15 February 2019. The licence may be extended further subject to a Development Application, although Project Wing have indicated that for their future plans they may prefer to relocate to an industrial area and deliver to more locations.

Further, Project Wing are able to purchase or lease premises suitable for its needs, like any other business. It is a business decision of Project Wing's to relocate and provide its services to other destinations. Bodies such as CASA will need to provide approvals for the operation of their service from any new locations under current Commonwealth regulations. In relation to your question about whether other companies may be able to operate in the ACT, this would be subject to receiving appropriate approvals and demonstrating capacity to comply with Commonwealth safety regulations administered by relevant authorities including CASA.

Project Wing have undertaken a range of community engagement activities prior to and during the trial. How Project Wing wish to present the outcomes of the Bonython trial and its engagements with community is their business decision. The ACT Government has not, and does not, intend on undertaking community engagement on behalf of Project Wing. It is not usual for the ACT Government to undertake community engagement on behalf of a private company.

Project Wing have indicated that feedback like yours is important to informing the outcomes of the trial. More information on how to contact Project Wing can be found on their website:

[https://x.company/intl/en\\_au/wing/australia/](https://x.company/intl/en_au/wing/australia/).

I understand that EPSDD is currently processing a Freedom of Information request for information relating to any agreement that relate to Project Wing trials in Bonython and Royalla. I hope that this process provides you confidence in the ACT Government's commitment to the principles of transparency.

Thank you again for contacting me with your concerns. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA  
Chief Minister

09 NOV 2018

**From:** "Ives, Kieran"

**Sent:** 06/02/2019 5:17 AM

**To:** "Daines, Nicholas" <Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au>

**Cc:** "Iglesias, Daniel" <Daniel.Iglesias@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Nicholas – Happy for your team to negotiate what the condition of the site should be, but I would like to be kept in the loop.

In terms of managing our relationship with Wing, I just want to make sure that we let them know quickly and clearly what our expectations are come the end of their licence. It seems like the gravel issue is a logistical one that they need to resolve quickly.

They have indicated to me an eagerness to return the site in a condition that is acceptable to us.

Kind regards

Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Director-General, Land Strategy and Environment  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** Daines, Nicholas

**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 February 2019 4:02 PM

**To:** Ives, Kieran <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>

**Cc:** Iglesias, Daniel <Daniel.Iglesias@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks Kieran sorry for missing your call.

I've actually passed this on to one of my staff to manage and they are now in contact with Wing. Are you happy for them to negotiate it or would you like me to get you an answer?

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran

**Sent:** Wednesday, 6 February 2019 2:55 PM

**To:** Daines, Nicholas <[Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Iglesias, Daniel <[Daniel.Iglesias@act.gov.au](mailto:Daniel.Iglesias@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Nicholas – I just had a call from Wing who are in the process of packing up.

Apparently there were early conversation between PCS and Wing about leaving the gravel (that is currently protecting the earth around the access areas used by trucks) on site following the end of their licence. I apologise, I don't have more context for this conversation.

Wing are offering to have the gravel removed next week before the end of the lease if this is not still the case. We just need to get back to them today or tomorrow to clarify.

Can you let me know if PCS have any business need or other reason for the gravel to remain on site?

Kind regards

Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Director-General, Land Strategy and Environment  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** Daines, Nicholas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 February 2019 3:15 PM  
**To:** Ives, Kieran <[Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au](mailto:Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Great thanks Kieran, I'll let you know if we have any issues.

Thanks  
Nick Daines

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 February 2019 2:23 PM  
**To:** Daines, Nicholas <[Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Nicholas – sorry I missed your call. Thanks for agreeing to take a look at the greenway site. Jesse is very responsive and I imagine he will be in contact shortly.

Let me know if you need any further details about the licence (and make good clauses), contacts for Jesse, or anything else.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Director-General, Land Strategy and Environment  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 February 2019 2:19 PM  
**To:** 'Jesse Suskin' <[jsuskin@google.com](mailto:jsuskin@google.com)>  
**Cc:** Daines, Nicholas <[Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au)>; Rutledge, Geoffrey <[Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au](mailto:Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Wing Australia - 303 licence set to expire 15 February 2019 (make good inspection) [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Jesse – Hope all is well. I understand that Wing intend to vacate the site in Greenway (part Block 18 Section 46 Greenway) in the coming week.

I have arranged for one of our Parks and Conservation Rangers (Nicholas Daines) to undertake an inspection of the site in the week commencing 11 February 2019. Nicholas will look at and provide advice on the condition of the site prior to the conclusion of the current s303 Licence on 15 February 2019.

Can you please contact Nicholas on the contact details below to arrange an appropriate time for this inspection?

**Nicholas Daines**  
Area Manager

Murrumbidgee River Corridor & Lower Cotter Catchment

ACT Parks and Conservation Service

Environment, Planning & Sustainable Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Ph: 02 6207 8980 Mob: 0466 396 507 | Email [nicholas.daines@act.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.daines@act.gov.au)

1541 Cotter Rd ACT | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



Kind regards

Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Director-General, Land Strategy and Environment

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government

Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)

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## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Member for Ginninderra

2.2(a)(ii)

Dear 2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your email of 21 January 2019 about recreational and commercial drones in the ACT. I am responding to you as the Minister with portfolio responsibility for this issue from a regulatory perspective.

I note your concerns about drones interfering with air traffic at airports and the obstruction of water bombing aircraft attempting to control bush fires.

I can confirm that the regulations governing the use of aerial vehicles, which include drones, are issued by the Commonwealth Government and administered by the Commonwealth Safety Aviation Authority (CASA). The ACT Government does not have a role in managing or enforcing these requirements. CASA is the agency for enforcement and reports of breaches are dealt with by them. Under the Federal government regulations, drones must not fly within 5.5 kilometres of an airport and fines of up to \$10,000 can be issued if not observed. Additionally, CASA is planning to roll out drone-tracking technology at major metropolitan airports over the coming few months.

In regards to your second concern, CASA in 2017 used its authority under the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998* to prohibit the operation of drones over fires and any other emergency operations.

In terms of the registration of drones, the Commonwealth Government, through CASA has committed to progressively introduce a certification and registration scheme for drones nationally from the second half of 2019. Under the proposal most recreational drones weighing more than 250 grams will need to be registered annually using a simple online process. Recreational drone operators who only ever fly indoors, or only at an approved model aircraft airfield will be exempt from the need to complete registration and accreditation. Drones of all weights operated at any time for commercial purposes will also need to be registered annually. Part of the scheme is accreditation that will require drone operators to complete an online education course. Accreditation will need to be renewed every three years.

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### ACT Legislative Assembly

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Phone +61 2 6205 2615    Email [ramsay@act.gov.au](mailto:ramsay@act.gov.au)



@Gordon\_R\_Ramsay



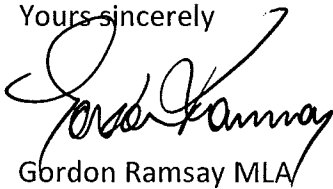
Gordon Ramsay MLA



Currently, CASA is in the process of conducting consultation with the community on the proposed registration and accreditation scheme and I encourage you to provide a submission as your feedback will be able to be considered as part of this process. A summary of consultation will also be published which will summarise all the feedback received at the end of the consultation period. You can provide your feedback at <https://consultation.casa.gov.au/regulatory-program/pp1816us/>

Thank you again for contacting the ACT Government with your concerns. I hope this information assists you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Ramsay', written over the printed name.

Gordon Ramsay MLA

13 FEB 2019

**From:** "Lacey, Natalie" <Natalie.Lacey@act.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 14/02/2019 5:04 AM  
**To:** "Ives, Kieran" <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Google Australia Licence [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Legend ☺  
Thanks Kieran ☺

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 February 2019 4:04 PM  
**To:** Lacey, Natalie <Natalie.Lacey@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Google Australia Licence [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks Natalie – yes, they are aware of this and have been spending the last couple of weeks packing up. They have no intention to seek a new licence.

James Overall from our PCS team undertook an inspection on Monday 11 February 2019 just to confirm relevant make good action were being undertaken prior to PCS taking back the management of the site.

I'll drop you a note once PCS confirms the site has been returned and licence condition for restoring the site have been met.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** Lacey, Natalie  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 February 2019 15:53  
**To:** Ives, Kieran <[Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au](mailto:Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Google Australia Licence [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Kieran,

I hope you're well.

Just letting you know that the licence for Google Australia over Block 16 Section 46 Greenway expires tomorrow. We trust Google are aware of this, and will enter into a licence for the use of land.

With kind regards,

Natalie

---

**From:** Diraviam, Thilagam  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 February 2019 3:25 PM  
**To:** Lacey, Natalie <[Natalie.Lacey@act.gov.au](mailto:Natalie.Lacey@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Google Australia Licence [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Here you go reference for Google Australia licence

**From:** "Ives, Kieran"  
**Sent:** 27/02/2019 2:25 AM  
**To:** "Overall, James" <James.Overall@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Project Wing site decommissioning [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Thanks James for this updated.

This is good to hear and aligns with my conversations with Wing last week.

I understand they're proceed with the gravel removal and returning the site to pre-development condition. They also noted that they would be erecting the requested fencing.

I had touched base with Nick while you were on leave just asking for an email to confirm (once Wing complete these works) that the site had been returned in a condition that PCS were happy with. This would go on file with their original land use licence.

Thank you for your work on this. There has been a bit of interest about the Wing generally (both in the community and media) so just want to make sure we dot all our i's and cross our t's.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: kieran.ives@act.gov.au  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** Overall, James  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 February 2019 12:55  
**To:** Ives, Kieran <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Project Wing site decommissioning [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hey Kieran, apologies I was on leave... understand it is all proceeding well. I've chatted with Nick, who consulted heritage re the gravel. Whilst there was the hardstand area that had geo fabric below, there was an access track and a few other areas of gravel that didn't. If we end up with some areas of gravel on the site, it won't be that bad. Very low values on the site which we periodically slash and graze anywhere.

They've been pretty good with the whole thing and Terrence was receptive of everything so I'm pretty happy with where it's going 😊

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Thursday, 14 February 2019 2:57 PM  
**To:** Overall, James <James.Overall@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: FW: Project Wing site decommissioning [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi James – how did the we go on Monday?

Are there any outstanding issues I can follow-up on with Wing in relation to the site or do you think the site will be returned in an appropriate condition?



Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

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**From:** Overall, James  
**Sent:** Thursday, 7 February 2019 9:19 AM  
**To:** [tbj@google.com](mailto:tbj@google.com)  
**Cc:** Ives, Kieran <[Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au](mailto:Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au)>; Daines, Nicholas <[Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au](mailto:Nicholas.Daines@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Project Wing site decommissioning

Hey Terrence,

Confirming I will be out there 11:30am Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Pine Island wing site.

In general we will be looking for the site to be returned to it's pre-development condition. This would probably entail:

- Obviously removal of all structures
- Removal of gravel
- Reprofilling of ground to match existing, including importing of topsoil if required
- Bitumen straw mulch with "Canberra Dryland seed Mix" to establish grassy ground cover
- Some small level of fencing/reinstallation of gate to make site/paddock secure again (I can advise specs alignment on site, but will be minimal cost).

Understand Project Wing will still be in the process of packing site up on Monday, I can just generally inspect and provide some advice on the above points where required.

See you then!

Cheers,

**James Overall**  
Ranger-in-Charge - Murrumbidgee River Corridor

ACT Parks and Conservation Service |  
Environment, Planning & Sustainable Development Directorate | **ACT Government**  
Ph: 6205 2023 Mob: 0434 683 353 | Email [james.overall@act.gov.au](mailto:james.overall@act.gov.au)  
1541 Cotter Rd ACT | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



**ACT**  
Government



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## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on  
Advanced Technology and Space Industries  
Manager of Government Business  
Member for Brindabella

**E-MAILED**  
28.2.19

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your email about the drone delivery service trial being undertaken by Project Wing. I apologise for the delay in responding to you.

Project Wing (Wing) delivery drones are an entirely new business model. This trial provides an opportunity to learn about the challenges and opportunities presented by delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy, and safety. Project Wing is an innovative company that is at the forefront of automated drone technology. Project Wing has been trialling their new business model in the ACT over the last two years, and the ACT government welcomes this business investment in Canberra.

Benefits of such a trial include the promotion of further business investment in Canberra, the engagement with technologies that can reduce transport carbon dioxide emissions, road infrastructure use and traffic congestion, and the advantages that come from being a city that engages productively with innovation and research.

Drone delivery systems are also an opportunity to improve the independence and access to services for some members of the Canberra community. While delivery services do not replace the need for more inclusive services and public spaces, fast and reliable drone delivery services to residential homes can remove barriers for people with disabilities that impair their capacity to travel to purchase products. For example, errands like visiting the chemist for over the counter pharmaceuticals or getting something for lunch, can present significant access challenges. In this way this service increases inclusion and participation in the economy.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) is the entity responsible for regulating the safe operation of drones throughout Australia and has also provided Project Wing approval for the Bonython trial. The ACT Government does not licence or regulate the use of drones. The ACT Government's role in the trial has been to facilitate the use of a site in Greenway for the take-off and storage of drones through a temporary licence for access to land. Both licences issued to Wing recognised that CASA has exclusive regulatory responsibility for the safe operation of all commercial and recreational drones throughout Australia.

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### ACT Legislative Assembly

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Phone +61 2 6205 0218 Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au)



@GENTLEMANMick



MickGentleman



A requirement of each of the Section 303 licences issued by the ACT Government to Wing is compliance with the aviation safety frameworks established by CASA. Wing has demonstrated its capacity to achieve CASA accreditation and operate within the relevant frameworks.

In addition, both licences require Wing to comply with the requirements of the Commonwealth Government *Privacy Act 1988* (Privacy Act) which contains a number of privacy protections for the Australian public, and sets out strict conditions for how organisations use information.

The Bonython trial has now concluded, and Project Wing will require new approval from CASA to operate from their proposed new location in Mitchell. The ACT Government licence has limited the operating hours of the trial to 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 8pm on Sunday. I appreciate that the noise created by drones is distinctive, however these restrictions are similar to others placed on activities that create noise in suburban areas such as lawn mowing.

Project Wing has also indicated to the ACT Government that feedback from residents led them to change their hours of operation, slow their drones and trial new quieter drones. I also understand Project Wing has sought expert advice on the potential impact of the service on native wildlife and the measures they can take to mitigate this impact.

I appreciate that members of the community have had both positive and negative experiences with Project Wing's technology trial in Bonython. There has proven to be a community demand for a delivery service of this type with Project Wing delivering more than 2000 packages to hundreds of participants within the trial area. However, as you have indicated in your correspondence, there is some community concern about the impacts of the trial.

More information on how to contact Project Wing can be found on their website:  
[https://x.company/intl/en\\_au/wing/australia/](https://x.company/intl/en_au/wing/australia/)

Thank you again for contacting me with your concerns, I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for Planning and Land Management

Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries

26/2/19

**From:** "Ives, Kieran"  
**Sent:** 08/03/2019 5:46 AM  
**To:** "EPSDD DLO" <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "EPSD Government Services" <EPSDGovernmentServices@act.gov.au>; "Rutledge, Geoffrey" <Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT ADVICE: Drones: Bonython

UNCLASSIFIED For-Official-Use-Only

Hi Erica – I have just spoke to Wing.

Wing had sought and received special agreement from our Parks and Conservation Services (PCS) to undertake a special demonstration this morning of their new quieter drone for media. This follows community interest after the assembly committee hearing on Wednesday.

The demonstration was a brief test and undertaken with the agreement of PCS, the land manager of the site.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

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**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Friday, 8 March 2019 11:24  
**To:** EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** EPSD Government Services <EPSDGovernmentServices@act.gov.au>; Rutledge, Geoffrey <Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT ADVICE: Drones: Bonython

UNCLASSIFIED For-Official-Use-Only

Hi – their lease has concluded (on 15 February) so they are not able to operate or store drones there. Wing has previously indicated that their operations ceased prior to 11 February 2019 .

They may be undertaking some remediation work e.g. erection of fencers and removal of gravel. They indicated that this work was being undertaken after the conclusion of the licence due to logistical issues. The Parks and conservation undertook an inspections of the site on 11 February 2019 and have been engaged with Wing about the remediation requirements.

I have called and left a message with wing this morning to confirm that they are not operating there.

It is plausible that a recreational drone may be operated in the area.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

---

**From:** EPSDD DLO  
**Sent:** Friday, 8 March 2019 10:13  
**To:** Ives, Kieran <[Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au](mailto:Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** EPSD Government Services <[EPSDGovernmentServices@act.gov.au](mailto:EPSDGovernmentServices@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** URGENT ADVICE: Drones: Bonython  
**Importance:** High

UNCLASSIFIED For-Official-Use-Only

Hi Kieran

Nev Sheather from BAD has called the office this morning saying that there are still drones operating from the Project Wing Bonython site. Can we get advice on whether the lease is up & whether they are still doing any work there, and if they are, whether they're allowed to? MO have asked for this info by lunch time today.

Thanks

Erica

**From:** "Ives, Kieran"  
**Sent:** 01/04/2019 3:31 AM  
**To:** "Rutledge, Geoffrey" <Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Wing and Greenway Licence Update

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Geoffrey

I just received a call from Jesse at Wing. He was providing an update on the Greenway site and licence wrap up.

1. Monthly reporting

Wing will provide a final January and February 2019 report on wing operations this week. These are the only outstanding reports from Wing.

I understand that most of the content that will be in this will reflect that in the submission provided to the Assembly committee.

2. Gravel removal

due to rain and finding an appropriate contractor, gravel removal on the site will be completed by third week of April 2019. This is the only site rectification work left at Greenway. This was additional work that Wing is undertaking at the request of PCS. The 303 licence had made an exception for gravel removal as part of rectifications work.

Once this occurs, PCS has confirmed the site is in a condition that they will be happy with.

The 303 licence expired 15 February 2019, but Wing have been in contact several times regarding this work to let us know where it has been up to.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Directors-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: kieran.ives@act.gov.au  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

**From:** "Clark, Rebecca" <RebeccaM.Clark@act.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 01/11/2018 8:28 AM  
**To:** "Konovalov, Alexander" <Alexander.Konovalov@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "Potter, Chantel" <Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: project wing talking points [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Great, thanks Alex.

I discussed with Sam the possibility of pulling together a comms subcommittee of the working group, so if that gets up that may assist with the community engagement side of things.

Kind regards

**Rebecca Clark | Policy Officer**

+61 620 72107 | Email: [rebeccam.clark@act.gov.au](mailto:rebeccam.clark@act.gov.au)

Regulation and Productivity | Strategic Policy and Cabinet

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development | ACT Government

Level 5, Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal nation as traditional custodians of the ACT and honour the Elders both past and present. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

 *Please consider the environment before printing this email.*

---

**From:** Konovalov, Alexander  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 30 October 2018 4:31 PM  
**To:** Clark, Rebecca <RebeccaM.Clark@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Watson, Richard <Richard.Watson@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** project wing talking points [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Fyi. Amalgamated from our QTB and the talking points you passed over. Not cleared by my executive.

Alexander Konovalov | Senior Manager, Land Release and Economics | Phone: 6205 2634 | [alexander.konovalov@act.gov.au](mailto:alexander.konovalov@act.gov.au)  
Land Supply and Policy | Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government

## AFFORDABLE HOME PURCHASE

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FIND OUT MORE





**From:** [Potter, Chantel](#)  
**To:** [Starick, Kate](#)  
**Cc:** [Clark, Rebecca](#); [Webster, Eddy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Drones [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Date:** Friday, 16 November 2018 10:41:53 AM

---

Please see the decision about the responsible minister. Regulation and Productivity will now have two ministers if we are carrying forward with Drones as a project.

---

**From:** Bailey, Kim.P **On Behalf Of** ACDLO  
**Sent:** Friday, 16 November 2018 9:31 AM  
**To:** Potter, Chantel <[Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au](mailto:Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Drones [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI

Regards

Kim Bailey  
ACDLO - #54007

---

**From:** McMullen, Stephanie **On Behalf Of** CMTEDD, Economic Development DLO  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 14 November 2018 2:24 PM  
**To:** ACDLO <[ACDLO@act.gov.au](mailto:ACDLO@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** EPSDD DLO <[EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au](mailto:EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Drones [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Kim

I have been advised that the following was agreed to by CMO:

- Project Wing expansion to Mitchell, to be led by the Minister assisting the Chief Minister in Advanced Technology and Space Industries (Minister Gentleman)
- Bonython Trial, continue to be led by Minister for Planning & Land Management (Minister Gentleman)

Minister Ramsay will still be involved from a regulatory perspective, but the CMO believes this is an entirely separate issue. If there is corro that is specifically about the regulation of drones, this could be responded to by Minister Ramsay, however my understanding is that the consultation etc hasn't started for this yet, so the response would be minimal.

All other corro related to the Mitchell expansion will be responded to by Minister Gentleman, and can be referred to his office.

Happy to discuss further if you need more clarification. Happy for forward the email between advisers if you need.

Steph

**Stephanie McMullen | Directorate Liaison Officer - Economic Development**

**Office of the Chief Minister | Office of Minister Ramsay | Office of Minister Fitzharris | Office of Minister Berry | Office of Minister Gentleman**

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government

☎ (02) 6205 4643 | ✉ [EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au](mailto:EcoDevDLO@act.gov.au) | ACT Legislative Assembly, 196 London Circuit Canberra City ACT 2601

**From:** "Clark, Rebecca" <RebeccaM.Clark@act.gov.au> on behalf of "Regulatory Reform" <RegulatoryReform@act.gov.au>

**Sent:** 13/12/2018 3:45 PM

**To:** "Bauer, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Bauer@act.gov.au>; "Burkevics, Bren" <Bren.Burkevics@act.gov.au>; "Campbell, Kevin" <Kevin.Campbell@act.gov.au>; "Engele, Sam" <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>; "Faerber, Jen" <Jen.Faerber@act.gov.au>; "Foot, David" <David.Foot@act.gov.au>; "Ives, Kieran" <Kieran.Ives@act.gov.au>; "Karanfilovski, George" <George.Karanfilovski@act.gov.au>; "Le, Joanna" <Joanna.Le@act.gov.au>; "McCredie, Andrew" <Andrew.McCredie@act.gov.au>; "McKeough, Claudia" <Claudia.McKeough@act.gov.au>; "Nielsen, Ole" <Ole.Nielsen@act.gov.au>; "Potter, Chantel" <Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au>; "Rutledge, Geoffrey" <Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au>; "Snowden, David" <David.Snowden@act.gov.au>; "Srivastava, Sunila" <Sunila.Srivastava@act.gov.au>; "Sunilduth, Ash (Health)" <Ash.Sunilduth@act.gov.au>; "Trevithick, Angela" <Angela.Trevithick@act.gov.au>; "Webster, Eddy" <Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au>

**Subject:** Drones Site Visit Cancelled [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Good afternoon members

You will note the Wing Site Visit scheduled for tomorrow has been cancelled. This is due to bad weather, as Wing are unable to conduct flight demonstrations. The briefing and demonstration will be rescheduled in the New Year.

In the meantime, we anticipate sending you an update on working group business, including the drone delivery inquiry in the Assembly. We will update you prior to Christmas Shutdown.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Kind regards

**Rebecca Clark | Policy Officer**

+61 620 72107 | Email: [rebeccam.clark@act.gov.au](mailto:rebeccam.clark@act.gov.au)

**Regulation and Productivity | Strategic Policy and Cabinet**

**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development | ACT Government**

Level 5, Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal nation as traditional custodians of the ACT and honour the Elders both past and present. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

**From:** "Potter, Chantel" <Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au>  
**Sent:** 21/01/2019 12:21 PM  
**To:** "Starick, Kate" <Kate.Starick@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** "Webster, Eddy" <Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Req from MO - drones [DLM=Sensitive]  
**Attachments:** CM18-93766 QTB - Drones - November 2018.docx, CM18-92123 Signed by CM - Bonython Drone Trial.pdf  
**Importance:** High

FI Kate - this was actioned.

---

**From:** Webster, Eddy  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 January 2019 12:19 PM  
**To:** Hodshon, Gerard <Gerard.Hodshon@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Potter, Chantel <Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Req from MO - drones [DLM=Sensitive]  
**Importance:** High

Good morning Gerard,

As requested, the most recent talking points on drones and a copy of the last drones ministerial correspondence that has gone out (please note the correspondence could only be found in a PDF document, therefore I have also attached the word version of relevant correspondence by Minister Ramsay, which was used to inform the PDF version by the CM).

Kind regards,

Eddy

---

**From:** Potter, Chantel  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 January 2019 11:24 AM  
**To:** Webster, Eddy <[Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au](mailto:Eddy.Webster@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Req from MO - drones [DLM=Sensitive]

Hi can you please locate these?

---

**From:** Hodshon, Gerard **On Behalf Of** ACDLO  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 January 2019 11:21 AM  
**To:** Potter, Chantel <[Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au](mailto:Chantel.Potter@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Starick, Kate <[Kate.Starick@act.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Starick@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Req from MO - drones [DLM=Sensitive]

Hi Chantel, hope you had a good weekend.

Minister's Office have requested the most recent talking points on Drones and a copy (word) of the last drones ministerial correspondence that has gone out.

Would you mind emailing these through to me sometime today pls.

Thanks in advance,  
Gez

**Gerard Hodshon**

**A/g Directorate Liaison Officer | ACT Legislative Assembly**

Minister Gordon Ramsay | Business and Regulatory Services | Building Quality Improvement

Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith | Employment and Workplace Safety

Minister Shane Rattenbury | Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety

**Access Canberra | Chief Minister Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government**

GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT 2601

Phone: 6205 4007 | Email: [acdlo@act.gov.au](mailto:acdlo@act.gov.au)

Add reference number

**Portfolio/s:** Business and Regulatory Services  
Advanced Technology and Space Industries

**ISSUE: DRONE DELIVERY – PROJECT WING**

**Talking points:**

- Project Wing’s decision to operate their world first trial in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.

*CASA as Regulator*

- Project Wing has approval for its drone activities from the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority, which regulates the safe operation of drones.
- The trials have been and continue to be closely scrutinised by CASA and are only being delivered to a limited geographical area within the suburb of Bonython. Casa will only progressively relax their approval after Project Wing has demonstrated a record of safety.
- The ACT Government is also receiving monthly reporting from Project Wing on their operations.
- The ACT Government is satisfied that Project Wing has demonstrated a strong commitment to safety and to working with the community to ensure that the trials are conducted in a way that is respectful of the community.

*Current Licensing Restrictions/Requirements*

- The ACT Government has facilitated the use of a site in Bonython, for Project Wing to continue its world-first drone delivery trials.
- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate issued a licence to Project Wing until February 2019, to operate on unleased land near Pine Island Road and Athlon Drive in Bonython.
- The licence requires Project Wing to comply with the Commonwealth’s Privacy Act and limit operating hours to the same standard that we have for activities such as mowing the lawn: 7am-8pm Monday to Saturday, and 8am-8pm on Sundays and public holidays.
- The Bonython land use licence expires on 15 February 2019.
- Recently Project Wing announced an intention to move it operations to Gungahlin and has commenced consultation with the public.

Cleared as complete and accurate: 16/11/2018  
Cleared by: Director Ext: 59828  
Information Officer name: Chantel Potter  
Contact Officer name: Chantel Potter Ext: 74780  
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development

## *The Legislative Assembly Inquiry*

- The Government recognises that drone delivery is an entirely new business model and there are divergent views with the community about how drones are operating.
- Community concerns relating to Project Wing's drone testing have included:
  - Noise complaints, specifically the effect of noise on the health of nearby residents;
  - Adequate notification about upcoming trials;
  - Environmental impacts concerning the effect of drones on disturbing local animal life;
  - Division in communities who either support or are against the drone delivery system.
- On 1 November 2018, the ACT Legislative Assembly referred an inquiry into drone delivery systems to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism.
- That inquiry is to have particular reference to:
  - the decision to base the trials in the ACT and surrounding region;
  - the economic impact of drone delivery technology being tested in the ACT;
  - the extent of regulatory oversight of drone technology;
  - the extent of any environmental impact as a result of trialling drone delivery technology within the ACT;
  - ways to improve the use of drone delivery technology within the ACT; and
  - information privacy.
- The Committee is to report to the Assembly no later than the last sitting week in 2019.

## **Background Information**

### ***Project Wing***

- Project Wing is run by Google's sister company 'X', which has been operating in the Canberra region since mid-2017.
- After commencing trials near Googong, Project Wing then moved to a site south of Canberra near Royalla, where locals participating in the trial have been able to order burritos from Guzman y Gomez and supplies from Chemist Warehouse.

### ***CASA licence***

- The CASA licence exempts X from the requirement to:
  - not operate a drone within 30 metres of a person;
  - not operate a drone over populous areas.
- CASA's operating conditions include:
  - not operate more than 400 feet above the ground;

Cleared as complete and accurate: 16/11/2018  
Cleared by: Director Ext: 59828  
Information Officer name: Chantel Potter  
Contact Officer name: Chantel Potter Ext: 74780  
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development

- not operate at night;
- not operate outside public gatherings;
- not operate over Athllon Dr, Drakeford Dr or Woodcock Dr;
- not operate less than 5 metres overhead, or 2 metres horizontally from a person;
- not operate within 3 nautical miles of the boundary of Canberra airport;
- not operate during a total fire ban;
- equip and operate drone with active fail-safe mode;
- any launch site must not be located within 15 metres of a sealed road.
- CASA is also exempt from the requirement to have a visual line of sight at all times.

Cleared as complete and accurate: 16/11/2018  
Cleared by: Director Ext: 59828  
Information Officer name: Chantel Potter  
Contact Officer name: Chantel Potter Ext: 74780  
Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and  
Economic Development





### Chief Minister

Treasurer

Minister for Social Inclusion and Equality

Minister for Tourism and Special Events

Minister for Trade, Industry and Investment

Member for Kurrajong

18/29555

2.2(a)(ii)

Thank you for your letters of 30 September, 5 October and 10 October 2018 about the Project Wing Bonython drone delivery trial. I am also responding on behalf of Minister Gentleman and the Government.

Project Wing are trialling an entirely new business model that utilises drones that are functionally different from most recreation drones that the community are familiar with. This trial provides an opportunity for the ACT and national regulators (including the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and Australian Privacy Commissioner) to learn about challenges and opportunities presented by emerging delivery drone technology, including community concerns about noise, privacy and safety.

The ACT Government's role in the trial has been to facilitate a temporary licence for the use of a site in Greenway for the take-off and storage of drones. CASA, the entity responsible for regulating the safe operation of drones throughout Australia, has also provided Project Wing approval for the trial in Bonython.

The ACT Government licence for the trial is subject to Project Wing complying with the Australian *Privacy Act 1988*. The Privacy Principles under the Act impose strict conditions on both the security and permitted use of personal information.

The licence also limits the operating hours of the trial to 7am to 8pm Monday to Saturday and 8am to 8pm on Sunday. This is similar to restrictions placed on other activities that create noise in suburban areas like lawn mowing. I understand feedback from residents has led Project Wing to consider changing their hours of operation. In addition to this I am informed by Project Wing that they have modified delivery routes as well as slowed down their drones, to reduce the noise impact further. Data from the trial has also helped improve the drones, making them quieter. These drone will be demonstrated in the coming weeks.

As a condition of CASA's approval and the ACT Government licence, Project Wing have kept CASA and the ACT Government informed about potential safety incidents. From the start of the service in

### ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Phone +61 2 6205 0011 Fax +61 2 6205 0157 Email barr@act.gov.au



@ABarrMLA



AndrewBarrMLA



actchiefminister



Bonython in July 2018 to September 2018, there have been no safety incidents. While a number of aircraft have landed away from the take-off site while making deliveries, Project Wing have indicated that these were controlled landings initiated by safety systems. These safety systems are a precautionary measure that trigger slow and controlled landings and mitigate risks to people and property.

Following community concerns about noise, privacy and safety relating to drone use in the ACT, the Government has commenced considerations on the appropriateness of a specific ACT regulatory framework for the use of drones. The Project Wing's monthly reports on the status of the trial and community commentary on the operation of drones in the ACT (not just the Bonython drone delivery services) are informing this work. Your feedback about the Project Wing trial will be considered as part of this body of work.

I also note your specific questions on the status of the Project Wing Bonython trial and the company's intention to seek another site from which to operate in the ACT.

Project Wing were granted a temporary licence for a Greenway site in February 2018, this licence expires on 15 February 2019. The licence may be extended further subject to a Development Application, although Project Wing have indicated that for their future plans they may prefer to relocate to an industrial area and deliver to more locations.

Further, Project Wing are able to purchase or lease premises suitable for its needs, like any other business. It is a business decision of Project Wing's to relocate and provide its services to other destinations. Bodies such as CASA will need to provide approvals for the operation of their service from any new locations under current Commonwealth regulations. In relation to your question about whether other companies may be able to operate in the ACT, this would be subject to receiving appropriate approvals and demonstrating capacity to comply with Commonwealth safety regulations administered by relevant authorities including CASA.

Project Wing have undertaken a range of community engagement activities prior to and during the trial. How Project Wing wish to present the outcomes of the Bonython trial and its engagements with community is their business decision. The ACT Government has not, and does not, intend on undertaking community engagement on behalf of Project Wing. It is not usual for the ACT Government to undertake community engagement on behalf of a private company.

Project Wing have indicated that feedback like yours is important to informing the outcomes of the trial. More information on how to contact Project Wing can be found on their website:

[https://x.company/intl/en\\_au/wing/australia/](https://x.company/intl/en_au/wing/australia/).

I understand that EPSDD is currently processing a Freedom of Information request for information relating to any agreement that relate to Project Wing trials in Bonython and Royalla. I hope that this process provides you confidence in the ACT Government's commitment to the principles of transparency.

Thank you again for contacting me with your concerns. I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Barr MLA  
Chief Minister

09 NOV 2018

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic  
Development Directorate

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

**To:** Minister Assisting the Chief Minister on  
Advanced Technology and Space Industries  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2019/789

**Date:** 18 February 2019

**CC:** Nil

**From:** Executive Branch Manager

**Subject:** To propose ACT Government engage with the Commonwealth and Safety  
Aviation Authority (CASA) prior to the Standing Committee Inquiry hearings  
on 6 March 2019

**Critical Date:** 5 March 2019

**Critical Reason:** To propose consultation with CASA

**Recommendations**

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

*Noted* / Please Discuss

2. Sign the attached letter at Attachment B.

*Signed* / Not Signed / Please Discuss

Mick Gentleman MLA .....



5.3.19.

Minister's Office Feedback

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

That you:

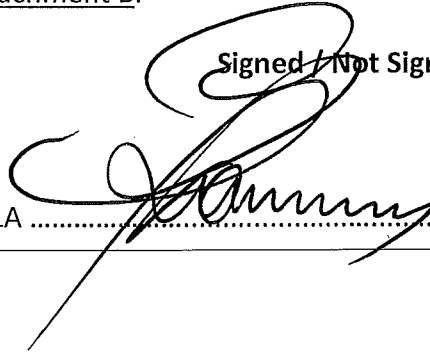
1. Note the information contained in this brief;

**Noted / Please Discuss**

2. Sign the attached letter at Attachment B.

**Signed / Not Signed / Please Discuss**

Gordon Ramsay MLA .....



8/3/19

Minister's Office Feedback

### Background

1. The Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee reported on the inquiry into 'Regulatory requirements that impact on the safe use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, Unmanned Aerial Systems and associated systems' (the Inquiry) in July 2018.
2. The Commonwealth Government responded to the Inquiry on 28 November 2018. The Government response to the 'Regulatory requirements that impact on the safe use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, Unmanned Aerial Systems and associated systems' is at Attachment A.
3. In response to the Inquiry recommendations, the Commonwealth committed to:
  - introduce a mandatory registration regime for all remotely piloted aircraft systems
  - continue to work with State and Territory law enforcement authorities and Territory government agencies to develop advanced processes to limit and restrict the operation of drones in certain locations, for example airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure and other vulnerable areas
  - Engage with State and Territory governments to consider national harmonisation of privacy law as they apply to remotely piloted aircraft systems
  - develop a whole of government policy approach to remotely piloted aircraft systems safety
  - work with State and Territory enforcement bodies to implement a nationally

consistent enforcement regime for remotely piloted aircraft systems.

### Issues

4. In line with the Commonwealth undertaking to introduce a mandatory registration regime, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority is seeking comments on its proposed remotely piloted aircraft registration regime. Comments closed 22 February 2019.
5. The registration and accreditation requirements are proposed to apply (with certain exceptions) to the following RPA:
  - RPA more than 250 grams operated recreationally and
  - all RPA operated commercially, including excluded RPA operations, regardless of weight.
6. The RPA registration and accreditation requirements are not proposed to apply to the following:
  - RPA 250 grams or less operated recreationally or
  - Model aircraft at CASA-approved model airfields or
  - RPA operated recreationally indoors.
7. The aim of the proposed new rules is to increase safety through increased compliance with the requirements:
  - ensuring everyone who flies a drone over 250 grams knows the rules
  - helping CASA to target the right safety information to the users who need it most
  - making it easier for authorities to identify when someone is breaking the rules.
8. The letter at [Attachment B](#) offers assistance with the Commonwealth's implementation of the Inquiry recommendations.

### Financial Implications

9. Nil.

### Consultation

#### Internal

10. Nil. Consultation undertaken for previous briefing was relied upon.

#### Cross Directorate

11. Nil. Consultation undertaken for previous briefing was relied upon.

#### External

12. Nil.

### Work Health and Safety

13. Nil.

**Benefits/Sensitivities**

14. There is potential for both Governments to benefit from working together and sharing information about experiences with remotely piloted aircraft systems.

**Communications, media and engagement implications**

14. It is expected that there will be ongoing media attention in relation to the regulation of drones within the ACT.

Signatory Name: Chantel Potter Phone: 74780  
Action Officer: Eddy Webster Phone: 75975

**Attachments**

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	Government Response to the report on 'Regulatory requirements that impact on the safe use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems, Unmanned Aerial Systems and associated systems'
Attachment B	Correspondence to CASA



## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced  
Technology and Space Industries  
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans

Member for Ginninderra

Mr Shane Carmody  
The Chief Executive Officer and Director of Aviation Safety  
Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority  
GPO Box 2005  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Carmody

I commend you on the work you and your agency have undertaken to date to prepare a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft.

I note that you requested responses to your online survey by 22 February 2019 and that CASA is working to an overarching commencement date of 1 July 2019, with progressive introduction of registration and accreditation.

The ACT Government recognises and supports the Commonwealth Government's exclusive power to regulate remotely piloted aircraft and welcomes a national approach to remotely piloted aircraft policy.

As you are aware, remotely piloted aircraft involve significant impacts on municipal issues and the Australian Capital Territory community has demonstrated substantial interest in this work. In addition, some areas of ACT law apply to drone delivery, as they would apply to any other activity in the ACT, these include: aspects of workplace safety law, fair trading, criminal law, and tort law.

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### ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia    GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Phone +61 2 6205 0218    Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au) | [ramsay@act.gov.au](mailto:ramsay@act.gov.au)



The ACT Government has been engaging with the opportunities and challenges presented by drone delivery technology through detailed policy consideration, and its response to the arrival to Canberra of Wing Australia (Wing), a drone delivery service and initiative of Alphabet.

Canberra is the only location in Australia where delivery trials are taking place, and one of the few places anywhere in the world. The more than 2500 parcels delivered by Wing in Canberra during 2018 is the largest commercial trial of drone parcel delivery to consumers, worldwide. Wing's proposed Mitchell operations and facility, providing delivery services to the Gungahlin district, is expected to keep Canberra in the lead in consumer delivery by drone during 2019.


Wing approached the ACT Government on two technology trials seeking business support in the form of temporary licences to access unleased land. These licences have provided an opportunity for the ACT Government to learn from the development of an emerging global industry in an ACT context. To date, the ACT Government considers its association with Wing to be productive and constructive for this purpose.

I offer ACT Government assistance to contribute learnings gained from the Wing drone delivery trials and impacts on the ACT community. This would contribute both to the development of a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft as well as other related work, including the development of:

- advanced processes to limit and restrict the operation of drones in certain locations, for example airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure and other vulnerable areas
- national harmonisation of privacy law as they apply to remotely piloted aircraft systems
- a whole of government policy approach to remotely piloted aircraft systems safety
- a nationally consistent enforcement regime for remotely piloted aircraft systems.

I sincerely look forward to collaborating with CASA on the regulatory framework of drones in the future.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA  
5/3/19



Gordon Ramsay MLA

08 MAR 2019



---

**From:** Landon, Daniel  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 March 2019 10:25 AM  
**To:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to CASA

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

Hi Sam

This looks like a good approach. Minister Gentleman is supportive of possible conditions on Wing, but wants to ensure they are broadly similar to restrictions that may be placed on other businesses or operations, so that Wing's operations are not unduly limited.

In other words, he'd like the conditions not to be overly prescriptive and restrictive. Instead, he'd prefer the conditions to refer to existing legislated/ regulatory/ community standards – for example, the camera and associated technology on drones must comply with privacy laws (rather than the conditions imposing a requirement that the camera must be limited to a certain resolution).

I'm happy to discuss if needed.

Dan

---

**From:** White, Michael  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 March 2019 10:12 AM  
**To:** Engele, Sam <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to CASA

Thanks Sam,

Much appreciated.

**Michael White**  
**Adviser**

Office of Gordon Ramsay MLA | Member for Ginninderra  
Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Phone: 6205 7101 | Email: [michael.white@act.gov.au](mailto:michael.white@act.gov.au)



---

**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 March 2019 10:11 AM

**To:** White, Michael <[Michael.White@act.gov.au](mailto:Michael.White@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Letter to CASA

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi Michael,

It will be a 2 step process.

Firstly it requires agreement between ACT and wing on the conditions – essentially relying on wing’s goodwill to enter into such an agreement. Casa have been clear that they don’t intend to force wing into conditions un-related to safety.

If we can convince wing to enter into an agreement with us I’ll come back to you and Dan for Ministerial approval of the terms.

Then the second step is for us to jointly (with wing) write to CASA with the agreement asking for it to be included as a part of the licence.

Realistically we are relying on the goodwill of wing and Casa for this to work, but if it fails then we can point to our attempts in the Govt response to the Assembly inquiry as a demonstration of the limits of the ACT to regulate (or even influence the regulation) in this space.

I’ll keep you in the loop on how we are going.

Sam

---

**From:** White, Michael

**Sent:** Wednesday, 27 March 2019 9:14 AM

**To:** Engele, Sam <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FW: Letter to CASA

Hi Sam,

Can you just pass the letter to CASA on conditions for project wing quickly through the two Minister’s offices before it gets sent to CASA?

Cheers,

**Michael White**

**Adviser**

Office of Gordon Ramsay MLA | Member for Ginninderra

Attorney-General

Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events

Minister for Building Quality Improvement

Minister for Business and Regulatory Services

Minister for Seniors and Veterans

Phone: 6205 7101 | Email: [michael.white@act.gov.au](mailto:michael.white@act.gov.au)



---

**From:** Landon, Daniel  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 March 2019 5:05 PM  
**To:** White, Michael <[Michael.White@act.gov.au](mailto:Michael.White@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Letter to CASA

Hi Michael

Can my minister pls see an early draft of the letter that Sam Engele is writing to CASA?

Cheers

Dan

**Daniel Landon**  
Chief of Staff  
**Office of Minister Mick Gentleman MLA**  
ACT Government  
t: 02 620 51690 | m: 0434 668 495



## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced  
Technology and Space Industries  
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans

Member for Ginninderra

Mr Shane Carmody  
The Chief Executive Officer and Director of Aviation Safety  
Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority  
GPO Box 2005  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Carmody

I commend you on the work you and your agency have undertaken to date to prepare a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft.

I note that you requested responses to your online survey by 22 February 2019 and that CASA is working to an overarching commencement date of 1 July 2019, with progressive introduction of registration and accreditation.

The ACT Government recognises and supports the Commonwealth Government's exclusive power to regulate remotely piloted aircraft and welcomes a national approach to remotely piloted aircraft policy.

As you are aware, remotely piloted aircraft involve significant impacts on municipal issues and the Australian Capital Territory community has demonstrated substantial interest in this work. In addition, some areas of ACT law apply to drone delivery, as they would apply to any other activity in the ACT, these include: aspects of workplace safety law, fair trading, criminal law, and tort law.

---

### ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia    GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Phone +61 2 6205 0218    Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au) | [ramsay@act.gov.au](mailto:ramsay@act.gov.au)



The ACT Government has been engaging with the opportunities and challenges presented by drone delivery technology through detailed policy consideration, and its response to the arrival to Canberra of Wing Australia (Wing), a drone delivery service and initiative of Alphabet.

Canberra is the only location in Australia where delivery trials are taking place, and one of the few places anywhere in the world. The more than 2500 parcels delivered by Wing in Canberra during 2018 is the largest commercial trial of drone parcel delivery to consumers, worldwide. Wing's proposed Mitchell operations and facility, providing delivery services to the Gungahlin district, is expected to keep Canberra in the lead in consumer delivery by drone during 2019.


Wing approached the ACT Government on two technology trials seeking business support in the form of temporary licences to access unleased land. These licences have provided an opportunity for the ACT Government to learn from the development of an emerging global industry in an ACT context. To date, the ACT Government considers its association with Wing to be productive and constructive for this purpose.

I offer ACT Government assistance to contribute learnings gained from the Wing drone delivery trials and impacts on the ACT community. This would contribute both to the development of a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft as well as other related work, including the development of:

- advanced processes to limit and restrict the operation of drones in certain locations, for example airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure and other vulnerable areas
- national harmonisation of privacy law as they apply to remotely piloted aircraft systems
- a whole of government policy approach to remotely piloted aircraft systems safety
- a nationally consistent enforcement regime for remotely piloted aircraft systems.

I sincerely look forward to collaborating with CASA on the regulatory framework of drones in the future.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA  
5/3/19



Gordon Ramsay MLA

08 MAR 2019

---

**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 2 April 2019 10:00 PM  
**To:** Perry, Ryan  
**Subject:** Fwd: CASA meeting - Thursday  
**Attachments:** Letter to S Carmody.pdf; 7. MARCH UPDATE Drones in ACT.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

Ryan I think we should pull together a quick brief for the ministers for the Thursday meeting with casa just to outline the key issues and give them an update on discussions with wing.

I'll work with you tomorrow on the key topics but also worth asking Chantel what she thinks will be the key issues when you do your handover.

Sam

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Rutledge, Geoffrey" <[Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au](mailto:Geoffrey.Rutledge@act.gov.au)>  
**Date:** 2 April 2019 at 9:04:12 pm AEDT  
**To:** "Engele, Sam" <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** **FW: CASA meeting - Thursday**

Geoffrey Rutledge | Deputy Director-General, Land Strategy and Environment  
Phone 02 6207 5001 | Mobile 0419 994 259  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Level 3, 16 Challis Street, Dickson | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2602 | [www.environment.act.gov.au](http://www.environment.act.gov.au)

CM2019/2514

**Portfolio:** Advanced Technology and Space Industries

Chief Minister

Business and Regulatory Services

**ISSUE: DRONE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY IN THE ACT**

**Talking points:**

- The commercial use of drones, or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), is growing rapidly. Their uses span across multiple industries and applications including:
  - logistics and delivery services
  - remote sensing for environmental and safety related purposes
  - defence and security applications
  - monitoring of infrastructure, such as Evoenergy is doing in the ACT
  - screen and film production
  - mineral exploration
  - disaster relief
  - surveying for planning, real estate and construction
- The ACT has a relatively strong ecosystem of drone systems and application developers. These include ACT UAV Developers Association, ANU Advanced Instrumentation and Technology Centre (AITC) at Mount Stromlo, UNSW Canberra Space, and companies such as Xtek, Codarra Advanced Systems, Aerial Robotics Australia, FPV Australia, Wildlife Drones, Aerovort and SOAPdrones.
- Three drone technology start-ups have received small grants from the ACT Government's Innovation Connect program, which helps Canberra-based start-ups develop innovative products and services.
- Since 2017, Project Wing (Wing) has been undertaking drone delivery trial services in the Canberra region; initially at Royalla, then at Bonython in 2018. In 2019, Wing is seeking to commence an ongoing service for the

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Cleared by:	Executive Branch Manager	Ext: 74607
Contact Officer name:	Craig Harrison	
Lead Directorate:	Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development	
Cleared for release	Yes	
Information Officer name:	Andrew McCredie	Ext: 50464
TRIM Ref:	CM2019/2514	

areas around Mitchell and Gungahlin. Wing has not received any sponsorship from the ACT Government.

- Drone technology across a wide range of applications, similar to a range of other new technologies, has the potential to disrupt existing business models, creating benefits for some companies and losses for others.
- Cities that are open to and engage with disruptive technologies and new business models can generate new economic development opportunities and returns.
- This approach can deliver competitive advantages, new business investment, more efficient business models and employment opportunities for Canberrans in the future.
- Another example of the ACT engaging with new technology is the CANdrive automated vehicle trial. Led by ACT-headquartered international business Seeing Machines, this trial is looking at how people interact with the machine (or car) at increasing levels of automation.
- Driver attentiveness in automated vehicles is an important factor in ensuring that the driver is in a position to safely take control of an automated vehicle when the situation demands. The findings from this trial will be considered by national and international regulatory and certification bodies, and the Seeing Machine driver monitoring solution is being taken up by a number of car manufacturers.
- Trials like these demonstrate that Canberra is a progressive and adaptive city but also with a particular strength in managing complex regulatory and community engagement issues. The ACT Government will work collaboratively with appropriate regulatory authorities and encourage and support the collection of sound, independent evidence. The Government will be actively engaged in finding ways of resolving community concerns in line with the vision of Canberra as being a progressive, connected and inclusive city.
- Wing's trial in the ACT is allowing the ACT Government and Commonwealth regulator, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), to better understand and respond to community attitudes to this new technology and the best ways to accommodate drone delivery in our cities into the future.

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- The ACT Government acknowledges Wing’s ongoing refinement of both its technology and business model in response to issues and concerns raised by service users, community members, businesses and Australian and ACT Government agencies.

### *ACT Government regulation of drone delivery services*

- The Australian Government has exclusive power to regulate drone safety, drone noise and postal delivery services. This means that the ACT Legislative Assembly does not have the legal ability to provide a comprehensive, targeted regulatory response to drone delivery.
- Drone operators are not exempt from a range of existing laws which apply in the ACT alongside applicable Commonwealth laws.
- Persons would be liable under ACT criminal law if a drone is used in the commission of a criminal offence.
- Civil claims of trespass or nuisance could be commenced for drone usage on premises in the ACT.
- The *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* provides a framework to protect the health, safety and welfare of all workers at work, other people and the general public who might be affected by the work.
- All ACT land use and planning laws apply to drone delivery companies in the same way they apply to other companies operating in the ACT.
- The ACT Government supports the development of nationally consistent regulatory measures. Measures proposed by the Australian Government include:
  - development and administration of new regulatory initiatives for remotely piloted aircraft systems
  - a mandatory registration regime and education program
  - increased delegated powers which may allow on-the-spot fines.
- CASA, Australian Federal Police, and relevant authorities prohibit the use of remotely piloted aircraft systems in airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure, and other vulnerable areas.

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- The ACT Government is a human rights jurisdiction and takes its obligations to protect the right to privacy of ACT citizens seriously. The implementation of the recommendation to establish a comprehensive research and data gathering regime by the Commonwealth should be the least restrictive of the right to privacy.
- Noise from certain activities in the ACT is regulated through the *Environment Protection Act 1997* (the Act) and the *Environment Protection Regulation 2005* (the Regulation). Section 8 of the Act specifically exempts noise from an aircraft.
- Remotely piloted aircraft systems, commonly referred to as a 'drone', is considered an aircraft by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA). Therefore the Environment Protection Authority has no jurisdiction to investigate noise complaints about drones.
- The safe operation of drones is regulated by CASA. CASA is the best source of information on how drones may be used across Australia for both recreational and commercial users.
- If there are concerns or complaints in relation to any aircraft noise, including noise from drones, ACT residents are encouraged to contact Airservices Australia (Airservices), the Australian Government-owned organisation responsible for responding to aircraft noise, including noise from drones.
- While Airservices has no regulatory powers to establish maximum noise levels or enforce compliance related to aircraft noise, Airservices will seek to influence a better noise outcome for residents, where a complaint has been lodged and the drone operator can be identified.
- The public can lodge any complaints on the Airservices website:  
<http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/about-making-a-complaint/how-to-make-a-complaint/>

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## Key Information

- Petition

In November 2018, Ms Joy Burch MLA lodged a 1000-signature petition on behalf of Bonython residents with the Clerk of the ACT Legislative Assembly, calling on the Assembly to block future household drone delivery services in Canberra. On 18 January 2019, Minister Gentleman responded in writing to the Clerk, outlining the economic and innovation benefits associated with conducting trials of this nature in Canberra. The letter also indicated the ACT Government has not, and does not, intend undertaking community engagement on behalf of Wing.

The Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism called for submissions to its inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT and received 145 submissions. The Committee held public hearings on 6 March 2019 and will hold further hearings on 13 March 2019.

- Potential ACT regulatory framework

When responding to new technology, the ACT Government encourages innovators to engage appropriately with community concerns and, when appropriate, work with government to get the regulation right. The ACT's engaged community, agile regulatory environment and links to national regulators are a key component of the Canberra value-add that attracts innovative businesses to trial and establish in the ACT.

- Enhancing ACT businesses

It is anticipated that parcel delivery by drone will become a component in a network of delivery modes in the coming decades. Wing has demonstrated its service can reliably deliver perishable products like hot food and drinks in a timely manner and in good condition.

## Background Information

### Standing Committee Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT

- The Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism held public hearings on 6 and 13 March 2019.
- Representatives of the following agencies appeared as witnesses: Wing; Bonython Against Drones Action Group; Tuggeranong Community Council; Belconnen Dog Obedience Club; ACT Equestrian Association; Tuggeranong Dog Training Club; Gungahlin Community Council; ACT Government Solicitor's Office; Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate; Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate; and Access Canberra. The Minister for Business and Regulatory Services also appeared.
- Themes of the hearing with non-government agencies were noise, safety, privacy, impact on domestic animals, bird life and the environment and the regulatory role of ACT Government.

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- Themes of the hearing with the Minister and government agencies were regulatory gaps, the relationship between Commonwealth and Territory regulation and the economic impacts of drone delivery services

**Regulation of Drones**

- Managing aircraft noise in Australia is a shared responsibility between Airservices, airlines, aircraft operators, airports, federal government agencies and state and local governments. Within this framework, the Territory government is responsible for determining and implementing planning frameworks for areas around airports to ensure that inappropriate developments are avoided where aircraft noise is (or could be in the future) particularly high.
- Drones are not being directed by Airservices air traffic controllers and Airservices does not design flight paths for drones.
- The federal Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations 2018 are based on International Civil Aviation Organisation noise standards for aircraft types and models. RPAS are not included in these international standards and are not covered by the Australian regulations. The Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities administers these regulations.
- CASA maintains a drone safety app called 'Can I fly there' that shows users where they cannot fly. You may also report unsafe drones to CASA at the following location:  
<https://www.casa.gov.au/aircraft/webform/report-unsafe-drone-operations>

**Wing's Bonython test site**

- CASA approved an Unmanned Systems Australia (Project Wing) to trial delivery services by drones in Bonython.
- The ACT Government facilitated the use of a site in Bonython for Wing to operate its delivery trials (Project Wing). EPSDD issued a licence to Project Wing to operate from unleased government land near Pine Island Road and Athllon Drive in Bonython. Project Wing's lease to operate commercial delivery drones from the Bonython site concluded on 15 February 2019, after Wing's advice that their operations actually ceased prior to 11 February 2019. Wing is no longer able to operate or store drones at that site.
- Wing is likely to maintain a presence at the site for a short period, as work is required to be undertaken by them to remediate the site to meet conditions of their lease. This remediation work is expected to include among other things, erection of fences and the removal of gravel. Due to logistical issues, this work could not be undertaken by Wing prior to the cessation of their lease, therefore work was still being undertaken after 11 February 2019.
- The Parks and Conservation Service, as land managers of the Bonython site, has undertaken inspections of the site and is working with Wing to ensure appropriate remediation works are undertaken for the site.
- Special agreement from the Parks and Conservation Service was granted to allow Wing to undertake a special demonstration on the morning of 8 March 2019 of its new, quieter drone. The brief demonstration by Wing was for the media and it followed interest from the community after a

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Lead Directorate: Chief Minister, Treasury and  
Economic Development  
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public hearing on 6 March 2019 of the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT.

- *The Canberra Times* reported on Project Wing testing on 8 March 2019  
<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/national/act/project-wing-tests-new-quieter-drone-20190308-p512pk.html>
- Wing has lodged a Development Application (DA201834859) for Block 27, Section 28 in Mitchell for alterations and additions to existing industrial development to act as a long-term base.
- Wing's Australian website is: <http://www.x.company/wing/australia/>

## **Innovation funding of Drone proposals**

### Priority Investment Program

- Two drone-related Expressions of Interest were received in the 2019 Priority Investment Program funding round - one for a swarm-mapping project and the other for an ACT UAV Test Site. Neither proposal progressed to full application.

### Innovation Connect grant recipients

#### Wildlife Drones

- Awarded a \$30,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2016-17.
- Translating the world's first robotic radio-tracking drone prototype into a commercial product service system.

#### Soap Drones

- Awarded a \$30,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2015-16.
- SOAPdrones designs and develops cutting-edge drone technology for military and commercial use. Our immediate focus is drone technology that will allow transport of goods weighing at least 10kg for up to three hours, and all with vertical lift.

#### Aerovort

- Awarded \$43,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2012-13.
- Development of the Micro Chinook Unmanned Ground and Air Vehicle with both a fly and drive capability.

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**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:35 PM  
**To:** Perry, Ryan  
**Subject:** Re: URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

Ryan I just tried to call but you couldn't hear me. I'm down at finance until 530pm today.

Could you progress a talkback brief on drones.

I am 80% sure there was one done previously or there should be a qtb with key messaging. Could you ask Alex or cassia to do a search - we may just be able to update.

If not it is just a page of talking points. In that I would just include:

- welcome new technology companies and the opportunity it brings local business for the act being a test bed for innovations like wing.
- recognise the legitimate concerns of community
- look forward to the report from the committee enquire

Happy for you to clear yourself or check in with Leesa.

Sam

Sent from my iPhone

On 4 Apr 2019, at 3:10 pm, ACDLO <[ACDLO@act.gov.au](mailto:ACDLO@act.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi Sam,

This MO has asked for a quick talkback brief for the Chief Minister ahead of tomorrow please.

It just needs to contain a few dotties about us meeting with CASA today i.e. successful meeting, continuing to work with the Federal Govt etc..

I am going to need this by COB please...SORRY!

Kind regards  
Kim Bailey

**Directorate Liaison Officer | ACT Legislative Assembly**

Minister Gordon Ramsay | Business and Regulatory Services | Building Quality Improvement

Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith | Employment and Workplace Safety

Minister Shane Rattenbury | Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety

**Access Canberra | Chief Minister Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT  
Government**

GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT 2601

Phone: 6205 4007 | Email: [acdlo@act.gov.au](mailto:acdlo@act.gov.au)

<Chief Ministers Talkback\_Hot Issues.doc>



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**From:** White, Michael  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 4:24 PM  
**To:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** FW: Civil Aviation Safety Authority Message [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

FYI looks like notification will come to the Gentleman office tomorrow.

**Michael White**

**Adviser**

Office of Gordon Ramsay MLA | Member for Ginninderra  
Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Phone: 6205 7101 | Email: [michael.white@act.gov.au](mailto:michael.white@act.gov.au)



---

**From:** Kandola, Shobaz  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 4:19 PM  
**To:** Mison, Matt <[Matt.Mison@act.gov.au](mailto:Matt.Mison@act.gov.au)>; White, Michael <[Michael.White@act.gov.au](mailto:Michael.White@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Civil Aviation Safety Authority Message [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** GENTLEMAN <[GENTLEMAN@act.gov.au](mailto:GENTLEMAN@act.gov.au)>  
**Date:** 8 April 2019 at 7:16:07 am GMT+1  
**To:** "Landon, Daniel" <[Daniel.Landon@act.gov.au](mailto:Daniel.Landon@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** EPSDD DLO <[EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au](mailto:EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au)>, "Kandola, Shobaz" <[Shobaz.Kandola@act.gov.au](mailto:Shobaz.Kandola@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Civil Aviation Safety Authority Message [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Hi Dan,

I just received a call from Carolyn Hutson from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority wanting to give us a heads up that Wing in Mitchell will be approved. They will send a formal letter about it tomorrow.

Thanks

**Natasha Apostoloski | Office Manager**

Office managers: Natasha Apostoloski (Mon-Wed), Eben Leifer (Thu-Fri)

**Office of Mick Gentleman MLA**

Member for Brindabella

Minister for the Environment and Heritage

Minister for Planning and Land Management

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced Technology and Space Industries

Manager for Government Business

t: 620 50218 | e: [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au)



**Please note that from 1 January 2018 ACT Government ministerial diaries are subject to publication on the ACT Government's open access website under section 23 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016*.**

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**From:** White, Michael  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 4:16 PM  
**To:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** RE: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

Thanks Sam

**Michael White**

**Adviser**

Office of Gordon Ramsay MLA | Member for Ginninderra  
Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans  
Phone: 6205 7101 | Email: [michael.white@act.gov.au](mailto:michael.white@act.gov.au)



---

**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 4:02 PM  
**To:** White, Michael <[Michael.White@act.gov.au](mailto:Michael.White@act.gov.au)>; Thomas, Brooke <[Brooke.Thomas@act.gov.au](mailto:Brooke.Thomas@act.gov.au)>; Landon, Daniel <[Daniel.Landon@act.gov.au](mailto:Daniel.Landon@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Power, Leanne <[Leanne.Power@act.gov.au](mailto:Leanne.Power@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Brooke, Michael, Dan,

For your information – CASA has provided a notification that they have approved Wing to undertake drone deliveries from its Mitchell facility.

I'm just confirming with CASA whether there is a public announcement / notification – will come back with the answer.

Regards,

**SAM ENGELE** | Executive Group Manager

Phone 02 6205 0230 | Mobile 0413 113 039

Email [Sam.Engele@ACT.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@ACT.gov.au)

**Policy and Cabinet Division**

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Lv 4 Nara Centre, 1 Constitution Av, Canberra

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



---

**From:** Gumley, Luke <[Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au](mailto:Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 3:51 PM

**To:** Starick, Kate <[Kate.Starick@act.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Starick@act.gov.au)>; Engele, Sam <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Dear Kate and Sam

On 5 April 2019, CASA signed an exemption to permit drone delivery operations by Wing Aviation Pty Ltd (Wing) for Mitchell and certain surrounding suburbs. Below are some dot points:

- The exemption is one of several instruments that CASA has issued to Wing that together permit drone deliveries.
- Wing will use next generation aircraft that are quieter than those used in the Bonython trial, along with dynamic flight paths to minimise potential noise impacts.
- Wing was required to submit a safety case to CASA as part of the application process for the trial. The safety case included information relating to reliability of the drones and the results of collision testing.
- The aircraft system is designed to be highly automated and fault tolerant, requiring multiple failures for the aircraft to enter a non-normal state.
- The approval was assessed by CASA using the Joint Authorities for Rulemaking on Unmanned Systems, Specific Operation Risk Assessment (SORA) methodology and toolkit.
- The CASA assessment shows Wing met or exceeded an acceptable level of safety across all the elements of the SORA process.

**Exemption instrument for Mitchell**

- CASA's instrument allows Wing to fly only the Hummingbird Quiet Hover Propulsion RPA over homes and streets in Mitchell, Crace, Franklin and Harrison and adjoining open space.
- The aircraft must not be operated over public gatherings.
- The operator may only conduct operations over or within 50m of residential suburbs during the following hours:
  - Monday to Friday 0700-2000
  - Sunday and public holidays 0800-2000.
- Wing only deliver to a location where a person has chosen to take part in deliveries. People receiving drone deliveries are fully briefed about safety.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Regards

[Luke Gumley](#)

Branch Manager Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)

RPAS Branch

National Operations & Standards  
**CASA\Aviation Group**

**p:** +61 2 6217 1772 **m:** +61 413 300 166  
Aviation House, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip ACT 2606  
GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601

[www.casa.gov.au](http://www.casa.gov.au)



*CASA acknowledges the traditional custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.*

-----  
**IMPORTANT:**

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**From:** Perry, Ryan  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:05 AM  
**To:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** RE: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder, Completed

Hi Sam – the ABC has also now reported the approval: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-04-09/google-drone-delivery-in-canberra-given-green-light/10983684>

Ryan

Ryan Perry | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | +61 2 6207 7608

---

**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:04 AM  
**To:** Gumley, Luke <Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Starick, Kate <Kate.Starick@act.gov.au>; Hutton, Carolyn <CAROLYN.HUTTON@casa.gov.au>; Perry, Ryan <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Thanks Luke, I'll speak to Wing about their planned comms.

How does a time on Tuesday next week work (anytime from 1pm-3:30pm)?

I would have thought 45 mins would be sufficient. And I'll get someone from Access Canberra to come along.

Sam

Sent from my iPad

On 8 Apr 2019, at 6:12 pm, Gumley, Luke <[Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au](mailto:Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au)> wrote:

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Hi Sam

The instrument is published on CASA's website <https://www.casa.gov.au/standard-page/non-legislative-instruments>

CASA does not plan to make an announcement, however we are aware that Wing do plan to commence engagement/marketing this week.

Might you be able to advise of your availability for a meeting to work through the complaint handling process (action item from the meeting last week)? Friday or next week are looking better for me.

Regards

[Luke Gumley](#)

Branch Manager Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)

RPAS Branch

National Operations & Standards

**CASA\Aviation Group**

**p:** +61 2 6217 1772 **m:** +61 413 300 166

Aviation House, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip ACT 2606

GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601

[www.casa.gov.au](http://www.casa.gov.au)

<image001.png> <image002.png> <image003.png> <image004.png>

*CASA acknowledges the traditional custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.*

---

**From:** Engele, Sam <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 3:54 PM

**To:** Gumley, Luke <[Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au](mailto:Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au)>; Starick, Kate <[Kate.Starick@act.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Starick@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Thanks for the heads up Luke, Can I check: do you release details of this approval publicly? Or will it be up to Wing to make an announcement?

Sam

---

**From:** Gumley, Luke <[Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au](mailto:Luke.Gumley@casa.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 8 April 2019 3:51 PM

**To:** Starick, Kate <[Kate.Starick@act.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Starick@act.gov.au)>; Engele, Sam <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FOR INFORMATION: Wing Aviation Pty Ltd - approval/exemptions for Mitchell ACT [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Dear Kate and Sam

On 5 April 2019, CASA signed an exemption to permit drone delivery operations by Wing Aviation Pty Ltd (Wing) for Mitchell and certain surrounding suburbs. Below are some dot points:

- The exemption is one of several instruments that CASA has issued to Wing that together permit drone deliveries.
- Wing will use next generation aircraft that are quieter than those used in the Bonython trial, along with dynamic flight paths to minimise potential noise impacts.
- Wing was required to submit a safety case to CASA as part of the application process for the trial. The safety case included information relating to reliability of the drones and the results of collision testing.
- The aircraft system is designed to be highly automated and fault tolerant, requiring multiple failures for the aircraft to enter a non-normal state.

- The approval was assessed by CASA using the Joint Authorities for Rulemaking on Unmanned Systems, Specific Operation Risk Assessment (SORA) methodology and toolkit.
- The CASA assessment shows Wing met or exceeded an acceptable level of safety across all the elements of the SORA process.

**Exemption instrument for Mitchell**

- CASA’s instrument allows Wing to fly only the Hummingbird Quiet Hover Propulsion RPA over homes and streets in Mitchell, Crace, Franklin and Harrison and adjoining open space.
- The aircraft must not be operated over public gatherings.
- The operator may only conduct operations over or within 50m of residential suburbs during the following hours:
  - Monday to Friday 0700-2000
  - Sunday and public holidays 0800-2000.
- Wing only deliver to a location where a person has chosen to take part in deliveries. People receiving drone deliveries are fully briefed about safety.

Please don’t hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Regards

[Luke Gumley](#)

Branch Manager Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS)

RPAS Branch

National Operations & Standards

**CASA\Aviation Group**

**p:** +61 2 6217 1772 **m:** +61 413 300 166

Aviation House, 16 Furzer Street, Phillip ACT 2606

GPO Box 2005, Canberra ACT 2601

[www.casa.gov.au](http://www.casa.gov.au)

<image001.png> <image002.png> <image003.png> <image004.png>

*CASA acknowledges the traditional custodians of Country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to their Elders both past and present.*

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**From:** Engele, Sam  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 April 2019 11:45 AM  
**To:** White, Michael; Thomas, Brooke; Landon, Daniel  
**Subject:** Wing license - CASA notification - closing the loop

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**Categories:** FOI Folder

UNCLASSIFIED

All,

Advice from CASA is that they simply [notify on their website](#) so no announcement from them.

However, I noticed that ABC has already picked it up and run a story with a quote from CASA.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-04-09/google-drone-delivery-in-canberra-given-green-light/10983684>

Regards,

**SAM ENGELE** | Executive Group Manager

Phone 02 6205 0230 | Mobile 0413 113 039

Email [Sam.Engele@ACT.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@ACT.gov.au)

**Policy and Cabinet Division**

Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | **ACT Government**

Lv 4 Nara Centre, 1 Constitution Av, Canberra

GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)





**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic  
Development Directorate**

UNCLASSIFIED

<b>To:</b>	Minister for Business and Regulatory Services	<b>Tracking No.:</b> CMTEDD2019/1695
<b>Date:</b>	3 March 2019	
<b>CC:</b>	Minister assisting the Chief Minister on advanced technology and space industries	
<b>From:</b>	Executive Group Manager, Policy and Cabinet	
<b>Subject:</b>	Meeting with CASA to discuss regulation of remote pilot aircraft systems	
<b>Critical Date:</b>	4 March 2019	
<b>Critical Reason:</b>	Date of meeting	

**Recommendations**

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

**Noted / Please Discuss**

MLA ...../...../.....

Minister's Office Feedback

UNCLASSIFIED

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2019/1695

## **Background**

1. In early March 2019, Ministers Gentleman and Ramsay jointly wrote to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to propose further engagement on its development of a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft (see **Attachment A**). The meeting with the CEO of CASA (Shane Carmody) has been arranged as a result of that letter.
2. CMTEDD has had an officer level meeting with CASA to discuss their consideration of specific licensing arrangements for Wing, and the broader development of a registration regime. In respect of the registration regime, we understand there are a range of working groups that are being established by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, however these are at a preliminary stage in their establishment and consideration of the issues.
  - a. You could advocate for an ACT Government official to be appointed to any relevant Commonwealth working groups to provide a local community perspective.
3. Separately, CMTEDD has met with representatives of Wing to discuss the possibility of entering an MOU with the ACT Government to reflect community expectations for its proposed operations in Gungahlin. Wing has expressed an openness to negotiating an MOU using the conditions within the Bonython operating agreement as a basis to commence discussions.
  - a. There is also scope for an MOU to address collaboration on other economic development opportunities.
4. One opportunity that was identified is the potential for the ACT Government to provide a joined-up, public facing complaint-receiving function through Access Canberra which could:
  - a. provide information to the complainant about Wing's operating environment, and the regulatory role of Commonwealth agencies;
  - b. (with the consent of the complainant) on-pass any complaints to Wing and CASA (and other relevant agencies) that would enable further investigation and remediation as appropriate; and
  - c. provide the ACT Government with additional information of the number of complaints and information about the nature of the complaint.
5. A CMTEDD Official (Mr Sam Engele) will attend the meeting.

## **Suggested talking points**

6. As we wrote to you, we welcome further engagement with the Commonwealth as you work to develop and introduce registration and accreditation for remotely piloted aircraft.
  - a. In particular, based on the ACT's experiences with the Wing's delivery service, in relation to remotely piloted aircraft, we think the ACT can usefully contribute to discussions around processes to restrict operation in certain sensitive locations, harmonisation of privacy law, a whole-of-government

approach to safety, and a nationally consistent enforcement regime.

- b. The ACT Assembly Inquiry will likely highlight the need for any regulatory arrangements to reflect the different preferences of local communities. Areas of interest to the committee have been:
  - i. noise, but more particularly hours of operation;
  - ii. privacy; and
  - iii. interactions with wildlife.

- 7. Steps being taken to register a greater number of drones and increase training for operators is a positive development.
- 8. CASA's enforcement capacity for noncompliant drone use. We are interested in the use of new surveillance technology in fulfilling this function.
- 9. We are interested to hear about the progress that has been made and the proposed next steps.

**Financial Implications**

- 10. Nil

**Consultation**

Internal

- 11. Nil. Consultation undertaken previously was relied upon.

Cross Directorate

- 12. EPSDD.

External

- 13. Nil.

**Work Health and Safety**

- 14. Nil.

**Benefits/Sensitivities**

- 15. There is potential for both Governments to benefit from working together and sharing information about experiences with remotely piloted aircraft systems.

**Communications, media and engagement implications**

- 16. It is expected that there will be ongoing media attention in relation to the regulation of drones within the ACT.

Signatory Name:	Sam Engele	Phone:	X50230
Action Officer:	Ryan Perry	Phone:	X77608

**Attachments**

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	March 2019 letter to CASA

UNCLASSIFIED

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2019/1695

UNCLASSIFIED



## Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
Minister for Planning and Land Management  
Minister for Police and Emergency Services  
Minister assisting the Chief Minister on Advanced  
Technology and Space Industries  
Manager of Government Business

Member for Brindabella

## Gordon Ramsay MLA

Attorney-General  
Minister for the Arts and Cultural Events  
Minister for Building Quality Improvement  
Minister for Business and Regulatory Services  
Minister for Seniors and Veterans

Member for Ginninderra

Mr Shane Carmody  
The Chief Executive Officer and Director of Aviation Safety  
Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority  
GPO Box 2005  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Carmody

I commend you on the work you and your agency have undertaken to date to prepare a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft.

I note that you requested responses to your online survey by 22 February 2019 and that CASA is working to an overarching commencement date of 1 July 2019, with progressive introduction of registration and accreditation.

The ACT Government recognises and supports the Commonwealth Government's exclusive power to regulate remotely piloted aircraft and welcomes a national approach to remotely piloted aircraft policy.

As you are aware, remotely piloted aircraft involve significant impacts on municipal issues and the Australian Capital Territory community has demonstrated substantial interest in this work. In addition, some areas of ACT law apply to drone delivery, as they would apply to any other activity in the ACT, these include: aspects of workplace safety law, fair trading, criminal law, and tort law.

---

### ACT Legislative Assembly

London Circuit, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia    GPO Box 1020, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia  
Phone +61 2 6205 0218    Email [gentleman@act.gov.au](mailto:gentleman@act.gov.au) | [ramsay@act.gov.au](mailto:ramsay@act.gov.au)



The ACT Government has been engaging with the opportunities and challenges presented by drone delivery technology through detailed policy consideration, and its response to the arrival to Canberra of Wing Australia (Wing), a drone delivery service and initiative of Alphabet.

Canberra is the only location in Australia where delivery trials are taking place, and one of the few places anywhere in the world. The more than 2500 parcels delivered by Wing in Canberra during 2018 is the largest commercial trial of drone parcel delivery to consumers, worldwide. Wing's proposed Mitchell operations and facility, providing delivery services to the Gungahlin district, is expected to keep Canberra in the lead in consumer delivery by drone during 2019.


Wing approached the ACT Government on two technology trials seeking business support in the form of temporary licences to access unleased land. These licences have provided an opportunity for the ACT Government to learn from the development of an emerging global industry in an ACT context. To date, the ACT Government considers its association with Wing to be productive and constructive for this purpose.

I offer ACT Government assistance to contribute learnings gained from the Wing drone delivery trials and impacts on the ACT community. This would contribute both to the development of a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft as well as other related work, including the development of:

- advanced processes to limit and restrict the operation of drones in certain locations, for example airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure and other vulnerable areas
- national harmonisation of privacy law as they apply to remotely piloted aircraft systems
- a whole of government policy approach to remotely piloted aircraft systems safety
- a nationally consistent enforcement regime for remotely piloted aircraft systems.

I sincerely look forward to collaborating with CASA on the regulatory framework of drones in the future.

Yours sincerely



Mick Gentleman MLA  
5/3/19



Gordon Ramsay MLA

08 MAR 2019



Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic  
Development Directorate

UNCLASSIFIED

To: Minister for Business and Regulatory Services

Tracking No.: CMTEDD2019/1695

03 APR 2019

Date: 3 March 2019

CC: Minister assisting the Chief Minister on advanced technology and space industries

From: Executive Group Manager, Policy and Cabinet

Subject: Meeting with CASA to discuss regulation of remote pilot aircraft systems

Critical Date: 4 March 2019

Critical Reason: Date of meeting

**Recommendations**

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

Noted / Please Discuss

Gordon Ramsay MLA

Minister's Office Feedback

UNCLASSIFIED

### **Background**

1. In early March 2019, Ministers Gentleman and Ramsay jointly wrote to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to propose further engagement on its development of a mandatory registration regime for remotely piloted aircraft (see **Attachment A**). The meeting with the CEO of CASA (Shane Carmody) has been arranged as a result of that letter.
2. CMTEDD has had an officer level meeting with CASA to discuss their consideration of specific licensing arrangements for Wing, and the broader development of a registration regime. In respect of the registration regime, we understand there are a range of working groups that are being established by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, however these are at a preliminary stage in their establishment and consideration of the issues.
  - a. You could advocate for an ACT Government official to be appointed to any relevant Commonwealth working groups to provide a local community perspective.
3. Separately, CMTEDD has met with representatives of Wing to discuss the possibility of entering an MOU with the ACT Government to reflect community expectations for its proposed operations in Gungahlin. Wing has expressed an openness to negotiating an MOU using the conditions within the Bonython operating agreement as a basis to commence discussions.
  - a. There is also scope for an MOU to address collaboration on other economic development opportunities.
4. One opportunity that was identified is the potential for the ACT Government to provide a joined-up, public facing complaint-receiving function through Access Canberra which could:
  - a. provide information to the complainant about Wing's operating environment, and the regulatory role of Commonwealth agencies;
  - b. (with the consent of the complainant) on-pass any complaints to Wing and CASA (and other relevant agencies) that would enable further investigation and remediation as appropriate; and
  - c. provide the ACT Government with additional information of the number of complaints and information about the nature of the complaint.
5. A CMTEDD Official (Mr Sam Engele) will attend the meeting.

### **Suggested talking points**

6. As we wrote to you, we welcome further engagement with the Commonwealth as you work to develop and introduce registration and accreditation for remotely piloted aircraft.
  - a. In particular, based on the ACT's experiences with the Wing's delivery service, in relation to remotely piloted aircraft, we think the ACT can usefully contribute to discussions around processes to restrict operation in certain sensitive locations, harmonisation of privacy law, a whole-of-government

approach to safety, and a nationally consistent enforcement regime.

- b. The ACT Assembly Inquiry will likely highlight the need for any regulatory arrangements to reflect the different preferences of local communities. Areas of interest to the committee have been:
  - i. noise, but more particularly hours of operation;
  - ii. privacy; and
  - iii. interactions with wildlife.

- 7. Steps being taken to register a greater number of drones and increase training for operators is a positive development.
- 8. CASA's enforcement capacity for noncompliant drone use. We are interested in the use of new surveillance technology in fulfilling this function.
- 9. We are interested to hear about the progress that has been made and the proposed next steps.

**Financial Implications**

- 10. Nil

**Consultation**

Internal

- 11. Nil. Consultation undertaken previously was relied upon.

Cross Directorate

- 12. EPSDD.

External

- 13. Nil.

**Work Health and Safety**

- 14. Nil.

**Benefits/Sensitivities**

- 15. There is potential for both Governments to benefit from working together and sharing information about experiences with remotely piloted aircraft systems.

**Communications, media and engagement implications**

- 16. It is expected that there will be ongoing media attention in relation to the regulation of drones within the ACT.

Signatory Name: Sam Engele Phone: X50230  
Action Officer: Ryan Perry Phone: X77608

**Attachments**

Attachment	Title
Attachment A	March 2019 letter to CASA

---

**From:** Perry, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 5:11 PM  
**To:** ACDLO  
**Cc:** EPSDD DLO; Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** RE: FOR APPROVAL: URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Attachments:** Chief Ministers Talkback Drone Regulation - (ED now leading) - April 201....docx

Hi Kim

As discussed, please see an amended version attached – the changes are primarily to the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> talking points.

Regards  
Ryan

Ryan Perry | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | +61 2 6207 7608

---

**From:** Bailey, Kim.P **On Behalf Of** ACDLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:50 PM  
**To:** Perry, Ryan <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** EPSDD DLO <EPSDDDLO@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: FOR APPROVAL: URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ryan,

Michael has asked if we can we get something explicitly in there that, even though the commonwealth has exclusive power, we are actively engaging with commonwealth regulators.

Two ministers met with CASA yesterday. Senior Directorate staff are meeting with CASA, Airservices Australia and engaging well to pass on community concerns and ensure we are acting in a joined up way.

Then it is good to go.

Erica – there is a highlighted section in there about the site in Mitchel – I think it has moved on from being under assessment – can you please check?

Regards

Kim Bailey  
ACDLO - #54007

---

**From:** Bailey, Kim.P **On Behalf Of** ACDLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:11 PM  
**To:** Engele, Sam <[Sam.Engele@act.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Engele@act.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Perry, Ryan <[Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au](mailto:Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Importance:** High

Hi Sam,

This MO has asked for a quick talkback brief for the Chief Minister ahead of tomorrow please.

It just needs to contain a few dotties about us meeting with CASA today i.e. successful meeting, continuing to work with the Federal Govt etc..

I am going to need this by COB please...SORRY!

Kind regards

Kim Bailey

**Directorate Liaison Officer | ACT Legislative Assembly**

Minister Gordon Ramsay | Business and Regulatory Services | Building Quality Improvement

Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith | Employment and Workplace Safety

Minister Shane Rattenbury | Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety

**Access Canberra | Chief Minister Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government**

GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT 2601

Phone: 6205 4007 | Email: [acdlo@act.gov.au](mailto:acdlo@act.gov.au)

<Chief Ministers Talkback Drone Regulation - (ED now leading) - April 201....docx>



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

- Project Wing's decision to operate their world first trial in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
- The high-profile nature of these trials shows Canberra as a high technology city, handling complex regulatory and community engagement issues.
- This approach can deliver competitive advantages, better outcomes and new opportunities for ACT businesses and the community, including business investment, more efficient business models and employment opportunities for Canberrans in the future.
- The ACT Government's response to Wing and the drone delivery service industry's presence in the ACT is part of the Government's commitment to a smart and innovative city mindset and engaging with emerging industries.
- Project Wing's introduction to the ACT is allowing the ACT Government and Commonwealth regulator, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to better understand and respond to community attitudes to this new technology and the best ways to accommodate drone delivery in our city for the future.
- While the Commonwealth has exclusive power to regulate drone safety and noise, the ACT Government continues to liaise closely with CASA –

indeed, two Ministers met with CASA yesterday (4 April 2019). Additionally, Senior Directorate staff continue to engage productively with CASA, Airservices Australia and other Commonwealth agencies to pass on community concerns and endeavour to act in a joined-up way.

- It is anticipated that parcel delivery by drone will become a component in a network of delivery modes in the coming decades. Wing has demonstrated their service can reliably deliver perishable products like hot food and drinks in a timely manner and good condition.

#### *CASA as Regulator/ACT Government ability to regulate*

- Project Wing had approval for its drone activities from the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority, which regulates the safe operation of drones.
- The trials were closely scrutinised by CASA and were delivered to a limited geographical area within the suburb of Bonython, requirements were progressively relaxed in approvals after Project Wing demonstrated their safety.
- The ACT Government is satisfied that Project Wing has demonstrated a strong commitment to safety and to working with the community to ensure that the trials are conducted in a way that is respectful of the community.
- The Commonwealth Government has exclusive power to regulate drone safety, drone noise and postal delivery services, this means that The ACT Legislative Assembly does not have the legal ability to provide a comprehensive, targeted regulatory response to drone delivery.
- Drone operators are not exempt from a range of existing laws which apply in the ACT alongside applicable Commonwealth laws.
  - persons would be liable under ACT criminal law if a drone is used in the commission of a criminal offence
  - civil claims of trespass or nuisance could be commenced for drone usage on premises in the ACT
  - the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 provides a framework to protect the health, safety and welfare of all workers at work, other people and the general public who might be affected by the work

- all ACT land use and planning laws apply to drone delivery companies in the same way they apply to other companies operating in the ACT.
- The ACT Government supports the development of nationally consistent regulatory measures. Measures proposed by the Commonwealth, include;
  - development and administration of new regulatory initiatives for remotely piloted aircraft systems,
  - a mandatory registration regime and education program and
  - increased delegated powers which may allow on-the-spot fines; and
  - CASA, Australian Federal Police, and relevant authorities prohibit the use of remotely piloted aircraft systems in airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure, and other vulnerable areas.
- CASA had an open consultation for written submissions on the proposed registration and accreditation scheme for drones for the second half of 2019.
- Final submissions to CASA closed on 22 February 2019.

#### *Current Licensing Restrictions/Requirements*

- Project Wing have ceased drone delivery services at the Bonython site and packed up operations as of 11 February 2019.
- The ACT Government's role in the trials in Canberra's south were facilitated by the temporary use of a site in Tuggeranong for the take-off and storage of drones through a licence for access to land. Wing paid a commercial rate for this service.
- The first drone delivery trial by Project Wing occurred in Royalla in 2018.
- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate issued a licence to Project Wing until February 2019, to operate on unleased land near Pine Island Road and Athlon Drive in Bonython. The licence expired on 15 February 2019.
- There have been some community concerns expressed over safety, privacy and noise pollution, with residents in the Bonython area raising specific concerns about the distinctive sound of the drones and the



origin of the sound. Wing adapted some of its practices as a response to these concerns.

- The ACT Government receives monthly reporting from Project Wing on their operations.
- The development application for the new proposed private site for Project Wing in Mitchell is currently under assessment and if approved is anticipated to begin drone delivery services to the Gungahlin, Crace, Palmerston, Franklin and Harrison region.

#### *The Legislative Assembly Inquiry*

- The Government recognises that drone delivery is an entirely new business model and there are divergent views within the community about how drones are operating.
- Community concerns relating to Project Wing's drone testing have included:
  - Noise complaints, specifically the effect of noise on the health of nearby residents;
  - Adequate notification about upcoming trials;
  - Environmental impacts concerning the effect of drones on disturbing local animal life;
  - Division in communities who either support or are against the drone delivery system.
- On 1 November 2018, the ACT Legislative Assembly referred an inquiry into drone delivery systems to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism.
- That inquiry is to have particular reference to:
  - the decision to base the trials in the ACT and surrounding region;
  - the economic impact of drone delivery technology being tested in the ACT;
  - the extent of regulatory oversight of drone technology;
  - the extent of any environmental impact as a result of trialling drone delivery technology within the ACT;
  - ways to improve the use of drone delivery technology within the ACT; and
  - information privacy.

- Final written submissions to the Committee closed on Friday 22 February 2019. Currently there are 145 submissions in total that have been provided to the Committee.
- The Committee is to report to the Assembly no later than the last sitting week in 2019. The Government looks forward to being able to consider the Committee's report.
- Concerns raised in the 145 submissions published by the Standing Committee have highlighted community concerns relating to Wing's drone testing including:
  - noise complaints;
  - adequate notification about previous trials;
  - environmental impacts concerning the effect of drones on disturbing local animal life and;
  - division in communities who either support or are against drone delivery systems.
- There are also many submissions from Bonython Service users and others who are optimistic about what drone delivery technology can provide for our community.
- Both the Canberra Business Chamber and the Mitchell Traders Association provided support of drone delivery services in their submission to the inquiry that services may:
  - offer capacity to provide consumers with new and innovative options for product delivery;
  - allow small local firms to develop new markets for their goods; and
  - traders in the Mitchell precinct are open-minded towards new technology;
  - that drone-based deliveries will be beneficial to local ACT businesses and consumers who wish to use the service.
- Public hearings for the Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT were held on 6 March 2019.
- Ministers with portfolio responsibility for matters relating to drones and regulation appeared as witnesses at hearings on 13 March 2019.

## **Background Information**

## **Project Wing**

- Project Wing is run by Google's sister company 'X', which has been operating in the Canberra region since mid-2017.
- After commencing trials near Googong, Project Wing then moved to a site south of Canberra near Royalla, where locals participating in the trial have been able to order burritos from Guzman y Gomez and supplies from Chemist Warehouse.
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  - not operate outside public gatherings;
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  - not operate less than 5 metres overhead, or 2 metres horizontally from a person;
  - not operate within 3 nautical miles of the boundary of Canberra airport;
  - not operate during a total fire ban;
  - equip and operate drone with active fail-safe mode;
  - any launch site must not be located within 15 metres of a sealed road.

---

Contact Officer: Ryan Perry

Ext:77680

Contact Officer: Sam Engle

Ext:50230

---

**From:** Perry, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 4:30 PM  
**To:** ACDLO  
**Cc:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Attachments:** Chief Ministers Talkback Drone Regulation - (ED now leading) - April 201....docx

Hi Kim

We have found a recent talkback brief on drones so took the approach of updating that rather than starting again, but please let us know if you need anything further.

Regards  
Ryan

**Ryan Perry** | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | +61 2 6207 7608

---

**From:** Bailey, Kim.P **On Behalf Of** ACDLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:11 PM  
**To:** Engele, Sam <Sam.Engele@act.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Perry, Ryan <Ryan.Perry@act.gov.au>  
**Subject:** URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Importance:** High

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It just needs to contain a few dummies about us meeting with CASA today i.e. successful meeting, continuing to work with the Federal Govt etc..

I am going to need this by COB please...SORRY!

Kind regards  
Kim Bailey

**Directorate Liaison Officer | ACT Legislative Assembly**

Minister Gordon Ramsay | Business and Regulatory Services | Building Quality Improvement  
Minister Rachel Stephen-Smith | Employment and Workplace Safety  
Minister Shane Rattenbury | Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety

**Access Canberra | Chief Minister Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government**

GPO Box 158, Canberra, ACT 2601  
Phone: 6205 4007 | Email: [acdlo@act.gov.au](mailto:acdlo@act.gov.au)



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: ~~7 March~~ 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

- Project Wing's decision to operate their world first trial in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
- The high-profile nature of these trials shows Canberra as a high technology city, handling complex regulatory and community engagement issues.
- This approach can deliver competitive advantages, better outcomes and new opportunities for ACT businesses and the community, including business investment, more efficient business models and employment opportunities for Canberrans in the future.
- The ACT Government's response to Wing and the drone delivery service industry's presence in the ACT is part of the Government's commitment to a smart and innovative city mindset and engaging with emerging industries.
- Project Wing's introduction to the ACT is allowing the ACT Government and Commonwealth regulator, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to better understand and respond to community attitudes to this new technology and the best ways to accommodate drone delivery in our city for the future. The ACT Government continues to liaise with CASA (and met with CASA as recently as 4 April 2019) and other Commonwealth authorities in order that the potential economic benefits of this new

technology can be realised while recognising the legitimate concerns of some in the community.

- It is anticipated that parcel delivery by drone will become a component in a network of delivery modes in the coming decades. Wing has demonstrated their service can reliably deliver perishable products like hot food and drinks in a timely manner and good condition.

*CASA as Regulator/ACT Government ability to regulate*

- Project Wing had approval for its drone activities from the Commonwealth Aviation Safety Authority, which regulates the safe operation of drones.
- The trials were closely scrutinised by CASA and were delivered to a limited geographical area within the suburb of Bonython, requirements were progressively relaxed in approvals after Project Wing demonstrated their safety.
- The ACT Government is satisfied that Project Wing has demonstrated a strong commitment to safety and to working with the community to ensure that the trials are conducted in a way that is respectful of the community.
- The Commonwealth Government has exclusive power to regulate drone safety, drone noise and postal delivery services, this means that The ACT Legislative Assembly does not have the legal ability to provide a comprehensive, targeted regulatory response to drone delivery.
- Drone operators are not exempt from a range of existing laws which apply in the ACT alongside applicable Commonwealth laws.
  - persons would be liable under ACT criminal law if a drone is used in the commission of a criminal offence
  - civil claims of trespass or nuisance could be commenced for drone usage on premises in the ACT
  - the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 provides a framework to protect the health, safety and welfare of all workers at work, other people and the general public who might be affected by the work
  - all ACT land use and planning laws apply to drone delivery companies in the same way they apply to other companies operating in the ACT.

- The ACT Government supports the development of nationally consistent regulatory measures. Measures proposed by the Commonwealth, include;
  - development and administration of new regulatory initiatives for remotely piloted aircraft systems,
  - a mandatory registration regime and education program and
  - increased delegated powers which may allow on-the-spot fines; and
  - CASA, Australian Federal Police, and relevant authorities prohibit the use of remotely piloted aircraft systems in airspace above significant public buildings, critical infrastructure, and other vulnerable areas.
- CASA had an open consultation for written submissions on the proposed registration and accreditation scheme for drones for the second half of 2019.
- Final submissions to CASA closed on 22 February 2019.

#### *Current Licensing Restrictions/Requirements*

- Project Wing have ceased drone delivery services at the Bonython site and packed up operations as of 11 February 2019.
- The ACT Government's role in the trials in Canberra's south were facilitated by the temporary use of a site in Tuggeranong for the take-off and storage of drones through a licence for access to land. Wing paid a commercial rate for this service.
- The first drone delivery trial by Project Wing occurred in Royalla in 2018.
- The Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate issued a licence to Project Wing until February 2019, to operate on unleased land near Pine Island Road and Athlon Drive in Bonython. The licence expired on 15 February 2019.
- There have been some community concerns expressed over safety, privacy and noise pollution, with residents in the Bonython area raising specific concerns about the distinctive sound of the drones and the origin of the sound. Wing adapted some of its practices as a response to these concerns.
- The ACT Government receives monthly reporting from Project Wing on their operations.

- The development application for the new proposed private site for Project Wing in Mitchell is currently under assessment and if approved is anticipated to begin drone delivery services to the Gungahlin, Crace, Palmerston, Franklin and Harrison region.

#### *The Legislative Assembly Inquiry*

- The Government recognises that drone delivery is an entirely new business model and there are divergent views within the community about how drones are operating.
- Community concerns relating to Project Wing's drone testing have included:
  - Noise complaints, specifically the effect of noise on the health of nearby residents;
  - Adequate notification about upcoming trials;
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  - Division in communities who either support or are against the drone delivery system.
- On 1 November 2018, the ACT Legislative Assembly referred an inquiry into drone delivery systems to the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism.
- That inquiry is to have particular reference to:
  - the decision to base the trials in the ACT and surrounding region;
  - the economic impact of drone delivery technology being tested in the ACT;
  - the extent of regulatory oversight of drone technology;
  - the extent of any environmental impact as a result of trialling drone delivery technology within the ACT;
  - ways to improve the use of drone delivery technology within the ACT; and
  - information privacy.
- Final written submissions to the Committee closed on Friday ~~the~~ 22 February 2019. Currently there are 145- submissions in total that have been provided to the Committee.
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- Concerns raised in the 145 submissions published by the Standing Committee have highlighted community concerns relating to Wing's drone testing including:
  - noise complaints;
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  - division in communities who either support or are against drone delivery systems.
- There are also many submissions from Bonython Service users and others who are optimistic about what drone delivery technology can provide for our community.
- Both the Canberra Business Chamber and the Mitchell Traders Association provided support of drone delivery services in their submission to the inquiry that services may:
  - offer capacity to provide consumers with new and innovative options for product delivery;
  - allow small local firms to develop new markets for their goods; and
  - traders in the Mitchell precinct are open-minded towards new technology;
  - that drone-based deliveries will be beneficial to local ACT businesses and consumers who wish to use the service.
- Public hearings for the Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT were held on 6 March 2019.
- Ministers with portfolio responsibility for matters relating to drones and regulation ~~are scheduled to appear~~ed as witnesses at hearings on 13 ~~of~~ March 2019.

## **Background Information**

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- Project Wing is run by Google's sister company 'X', which has been operating in the Canberra region since mid-2017.
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---

Contact Officer: [Chantel Potter](#)[Ryan Perry](#)  
 Ext:~~74780~~[77680](#)

[Contact Officer:](#) [Sam Engele](#) [Ext:50230](#)

---

**From:** Bailey, Kim.P on behalf of ACDLO  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:11 PM  
**To:** Engele, Sam  
**Cc:** Perry, Ryan  
**Subject:** URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]  
**Attachments:** Chief Ministers Talkback\_Hot Issues.doc

**Importance:** High

Hi Sam,

This MO has asked for a quick talkback brief for the Chief Minister ahead of tomorrow please.

It just needs to contain a few dottedies about us meeting with CASA today i.e. successful meeting, continuing to work with the Federal Govt etc..

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## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: Xx Month 2019

### ISSUE: [BOLD CAPITALS – 14 Point]

#### Talking Points

- Text – 12 point
- Key messages the Minister can use to respond to potential questions.
- The - why, when, how, who, how much?
- 
- 

#### Key Points

- Text – 12 point
- Key pieces of information on the issue that may include statistics.
- 
- 
- 

#### Background Information

- Text – 11 point
- Background information
- 

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Contact Officer:

Ext:XXXXX

---

**From:** Perry, Ryan  
**Sent:** Thursday, 4 April 2019 3:58 PM  
**To:** McCredie, Andrew  
**Cc:** Engele, Sam  
**Subject:** URGENT: Talkback brief - drones [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]  
**Attachments:** Chief Ministers Talkback Drone Regulation - (ED now leading) - April 201....docx; URGENT: Drones talkback brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

**Importance:** High

Hi Andrew

We have received the attached request from Minister Ramsay's DLO to provide a talkback brief for the CM by COB today to reflect that the Ministers met with CASA today to discuss. I understand that your area may be the lead on public messaging about these issues now, but have found a recent brief in TRIM and have included a few updates (tracked in the attached) – grateful for your urgent consideration.

Regards  
Ryan

**Ryan Perry | A/g Executive Branch Manager Economic and Regional Policy Branch**  
Policy and Cabinet Division  
Ph: +61 2 6207 7608 | Email: [ryan.perry@act.gov.au](mailto:ryan.perry@act.gov.au)  
**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate | ACT Government**  
Level 5 Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 Canberra ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: ~~7 March~~ 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

- Project Wing's decision to operate their world first trial in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
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- This approach can deliver competitive advantages, better outcomes and new opportunities for ACT businesses and the community, including business investment, more efficient business models and employment opportunities for Canberrans in the future.
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---

Contact Officer: [Chantel Potter](#)[Ryan Perry](#)  
 Ext:~~74780~~[77680](#)

[Contact Officer:](#) [Sam Engele](#) [Ext:50230](#)

---

**From:** Webster, Eddy  
**Sent:** Thursday, 18 April 2019 5:16 PM  
**To:** McCredie, Andrew; Trevithick, Angela; Burkevics, Bren; Corey Heldon; Foot, David; Snowden, David; Rutledge, Geoffrey; Karanfilovski, George; Faerber, Jen; Bauer, Jennifer; Campbell, Kevin; Ives, Kieran; Lynch, Marion; Young, Michael; Nathan Greenwood; Lhuede, Nick; Engele, Sam; Sonia Sawczak; Forbes, Steve; Srivastava, Sunila; Perry, Ryan; Kearns, Tristan; Curtin, Daniel; Sargent, Narelle  
**Subject:** Drones Working Group Agenda Materials Circulation  
**Attachments:** Drones WG Agenda - 23 April 2019.docx; Wing Fly Neighbourly principles - ACT.pdf; Project Wing Communication Materials with the Gunghalin Region.pdf  
**Importance:** High

UNCLASSIFIED

Good afternoon all,

Attached is the Agenda for our Drones Working Group Meeting next Tuesday for your viewing. Additionally, please note that the attachment "**Wing Fly Neighbourly Principles**" Document is "**commercial in confidence**" as it is currently still in DRAFT form, so please do not distribute. The **Project Wing Communication Materials with the Gunghalin Region** document is intended to be the primary communications document that will be letterbox dropped to the Gunghalin region but should also be kept in house, until those communications formally begin.

Hope you all have a lovely Easter, kind regards,

**Eddy Webster | Policy Officer**

Regulation and Productivity Team | Economic and Regional Policy Branch | Policy and Cabinet Division

**Chief Minister, Treasury & Economic Development | ACT Government**

Phone: 6207 5975 | Email: [eddy.webster@act.gov.au](mailto:eddy.webster@act.gov.au)

Level 4, Canberra Nara Centre | GPO Box 158 CANBERRA ACT 2601 | [www.act.gov.au](http://www.act.gov.au)



I acknowledge the Ngunnawal nation as traditional custodians of the ACT and honour the Elders both past and present. I acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

*This email, and any attachments, may be confidential and also privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and delete all copies of this transmission along with any attachments immediately. You should not copy or use it for any purpose, nor disclose its contents to any other person.*

 **Please consider the environment before printing this email.**



**SENSITIVE**

1:00 – 2:00pm, Tuesday 23 April 2019  
Level 5 North, Goodradigbee Room  
Canberra Nara House, 1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra City

\* \* \*

**INVITEES:**

Sam Engele (Chair)	CMTEDD, Policy and Cabinet
Ryan Perry	CMTEDD, Policy and Cabinet
Daniel Curtin/David Snowden	CMTEDD, Access Canberra
Andrew McCredie	CMTEDD, Economic Development
Tristan Kearnes	CMTEDD, OCDO
Kevin Campbell	JACSD, LPP
Nathan Greenwood/Sonia Sawczak/Corey Heldon	ACT Policing
Sunila Srivastava/Bren Burkevics	JACSD, Security and Emergency Management
Steve Forbes/David Foot/Nick Lheude	JACSD, Emergency Services Agency
George Karanfilovski/Angela Trevithick	TCCS
Geoffrey Rutledge/Kieran Ives	EPSDD
Marion Lynch	ACTIA
Michael Young	CMTEDD, Workplace Health and Safety
Jen Baeur/Eddy Webster	CMTEDD, Government and Regulatory Reform
Jen Faerber/Joanna Le	CMTEDD, Strategic Communications

**PROGRAM:**

**Item**

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Welcome and introduction                             | Chair                       |
| 2. New Developments (DA Mitchell & CASA licence)        | Chair/Kieran Ives           |
| 3. Drone Inquiry (145 Submissions)/Drone Hearings       | Andrew McCredie/Kieran Ives |
| 4. MOU with Wing for Gunghalin                          | Ryan Perry/Kieran Ives      |
| 5. Wing Neighbourly Principles/Community FAQ's          | Kieran Ives                 |
| 6. Access Canberra Feedback Backfill Operations         | Daniel Curtin               |
| 7. Wing Demonstration Flights (DIRDC)                   | Chair/Ryan Perry            |
| 8. Counter-remotely piloted aircraft system (C-RPAS) WG | Corey Heldon                |
| 9. Update from Communications subcommittee              | Jen Faerber                 |
| 10. Next steps:   | Chair                       |

---

**A/g Chair**

Sam Engele  
Executive Director, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

**Secretariat contact**

Eddy Webster  
Policy Officer, Government and Regulatory Reform, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD  
Ph: 6207 5975



**ACT**  
Government

## DRONES WORKING GROUP

### Agenda

---

- CASA Certification/Registration Scheme/Where can I fly app
- Other Business

---

**A/g Chair**

Sam Engle

Executive Director, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

**Secretariat contact**

Eddy Webster

Policy Officer, Government and Regulatory Reform, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

Ph: 6207 5975

---

**From:** Ives, Kieran  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 1 May 2019 3:42 PM  
**To:** Perry, Ryan  
**Subject:** MOU matters

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Hi Ryan – as discussed at today’s working group meeting two matter that will be important for inclusion in a MOU from an EPSDD perspective will be:

- a) Regular reporting like that included in the land use licences:
  - a. Number of flights
  - b. Number and nature of safety incidents
  - c. Number and nature of complaints
- b) An commitment that they will continue to understand and mitigate the implications of their service for local wildlife.

Kind regards  
Kieran

Kieran Ives | Executive Officer to Deputy Director-General  
Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate | ACT Government  
Phone: (02) 6205 9095 | Email: [kieran.ives@act.gov.au](mailto:kieran.ives@act.gov.au)  
Level 3 Dame Pattie Menzies House, 16 Challis Street, Dickson, ACT | GPO Box 158, Canberra 2601

public hearing on 6 March 2019 of the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Tourism Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT.

- *The Canberra Times* reported on Project Wing testing on 8 March 2019  
<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/national/act/project-wing-tests-new-quieter-drone-20190308-p512pk.html>
- Wing has lodged a Development Application (DA201834859) for Block 27, Section 28 in Mitchell for alterations and additions to existing industrial development to act as a long-term base.
- Wing's Australian website is: <http://www.x.company/wing/australia/>

## **Innovation funding of Drone proposals**

### Priority Investment Program

- Two drone-related Expressions of Interest were received in the 2019 Priority Investment Program funding round - one for a swarm-mapping project and the other for an ACT UAV Test Site. Neither proposal progressed to full application.

### Innovation Connect grant recipients

#### Wildlife Drones

- Awarded a \$30,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2016-17.
- Translating the world's first robotic radio-tracking drone prototype into a commercial product service system.

#### Soap Drones

- Awarded a \$30,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2015-16.
- SOAPdrones designs and develops cutting-edge drone technology for military and commercial use. Our immediate focus is drone technology that will allow transport of goods weighing at least 10kg for up to three hours, and all with vertical lift.

#### Aerovort

- Awarded \$43,000 Innovation Connect grant in 2012-13.
- Development of the Micro Chinook Unmanned Ground and Air Vehicle with both a fly and drive capability.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	08/03/2019	
Cleared by:	Executive Branch Manager	Ext: 74607
Contact Officer name:	Craig Harrison	
Lead Directorate:	Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development	
Cleared for release	Yes	
Information Officer name:	Andrew McCredie	Ext: 50464
TRIM Ref:	CM2019/2514	





**Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic  
Development Directorate**

UNCLASSIFIED

<b>To:</b>	Minister for Business and Regulatory Services	<b>Tracking No.:</b> CMTEDD2019/1695
<b>Date:</b>	3 March 2019	
<b>CC:</b>	Minister assisting the Chief Minister on advanced technology and space industries	
<b>From:</b>	Executive Group Manager, Policy and Cabinet	
<b>Subject:</b>	Meeting with CASA to discuss regulation of remote pilot aircraft systems	
<b>Critical Date:</b>	4 March 2019	
<b>Critical Reason:</b>	Date of meeting	

**Recommendations**

That you:

1. Note the information contained in this brief;

**Noted / Please Discuss**

MLA ...../...../.....

Minister's Office Feedback

UNCLASSIFIED



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

- Project Wing's decision to operate their world first trial in Canberra is evidence of our growing reputation as a progressive regulatory environment that is business-friendly and helping to foster innovation.
- The high-profile nature of these trials shows Canberra as a high technology city, handling complex regulatory and community engagement issues.
- This approach can deliver competitive advantages, better outcomes and new opportunities for ACT businesses and the community, including business investment, more efficient business models and employment opportunities for Canberrans in the future.
- The ACT Government's response to Wing and the drone delivery service industry's presence in the ACT is part of the Government's commitment to a smart and innovative city mindset and engaging with emerging industries.
- Project Wing's introduction to the ACT is allowing the ACT Government and Commonwealth regulator, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to better understand and respond to community attitudes to this new technology and the best ways to accommodate drone delivery in our city for the future.
- While the Commonwealth has exclusive power to regulate drone safety and noise, the ACT Government continues to liaise closely with CASA –



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: ~~7 March~~ 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

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- Project Wing's introduction to the ACT is allowing the ACT Government and Commonwealth regulator, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to better understand and respond to community attitudes to this new technology and the best ways to accommodate drone delivery in our city for the future. The ACT Government continues to liaise with CASA (and met with CASA as recently as 4 April 2019) and other Commonwealth authorities in order that the potential economic benefits of this new



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: Xx Month 2019

### ISSUE: [BOLD CAPITALS – 14 Point]

#### Talking Points

- Text – 12 point
- Key messages the Minister can use to respond to potential questions.
- The - why, when, how, who, how much?
- 
- 

#### Key Points

- Text – 12 point
- Key pieces of information on the issue that may include statistics.
- 
- 
- 

#### Background Information

- Text – 11 point
- Background information
- 

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Contact Officer:

Ext:XXXXX



## CHIEF MINISTER'S TALKBACK – HOT ISSUE

Complete and accurate as at: ~~7 March~~ 4 April 2019

### ISSUE: *Drone Delivery – Project Wing*

#### Talking Points

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**SENSITIVE**

1:00 – 2:00pm, Tuesday 23 April 2019  
Level 5 North, Goodradigbee Room  
Canberra Nara House, 1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra City

\* \* \*

**INVITEES:**

Sam Engele (Chair)	CMTEDD, Policy and Cabinet
Ryan Perry	CMTEDD, Policy and Cabinet
Daniel Curtin/David Snowden	CMTEDD, Access Canberra
Andrew McCredie	CMTEDD, Economic Development
Tristan Kearnes	CMTEDD, OCDO
Kevin Campbell	JACSD, LPP
Nathan Greenwood/Sonia Sawczak/Corey Heldon	ACT Policing
Sunila Srivastava/Bren Burkevics	JACSD, Security and Emergency Management
Steve Forbes/David Foot/Nick Lheude	JACSD, Emergency Services Agency
George Karanfilovski/Angela Trevithick	TCCS
Geoffrey Rutledge/Kieran Ives	EPSDD
Marion Lynch	ACTIA
Michael Young	CMTEDD, Workplace Health and Safety
Jen Baeur/Eddy Webster	CMTEDD, Government and Regulatory Reform
Jen Faerber/Joanna Le	CMTEDD, Strategic Communications

**PROGRAM:**

**Item**

- |   |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Welcome and introduction                             | Chair                       |
| 2. New Developments (DA Mitchell & CASA licence)        | Chair/Kieran Ives           |
| 3. Drone Inquiry (145 Submissions)/Drone Hearings       | Andrew McCredie/Kieran Ives |
| 4. MOU with Wing for Gunghalin                          | Ryan Perry/Kieran Ives      |
| 5. Wing Neighbourly Principles/Community FAQ's          | Kieran Ives                 |
| 6. Access Canberra Feedback Backfill Operations         | Daniel Curtin               |
| 7. Wing Demonstration Flights (DIRDC)                   | Chair/Ryan Perry            |
| 8. Counter-remotely piloted aircraft system (C-RPAS) WG | Corey Heldon                |
| 9. Update from Communications subcommittee              | Jen Faerber                 |
| 10. Next steps:   | Chair                       |

**A/g Chair**

Sam Engele  
Executive Director, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

**Secretariat contact**

Eddy Webster  
Policy Officer, Government and Regulatory Reform, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD  
Ph: 6207 5975



**ACT**  
Government

## DRONES WORKING GROUP

### Agenda

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- CASA Certification/Registration Scheme/Where can I fly app
- Other Business

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**A/g Chair**

Sam Engle

Executive Director, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

**Secretariat contact**

Eddy Webster

Policy Officer, Government and Regulatory Reform, Policy and Cabinet, CMTEDD

Ph: 6207 5975