



5 July 2019

Mr William Hodgkinson
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Via email: william.hodgkinson@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Hodgkinson

Re: State Significant Development: Qantas Flight Training Centre

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Qantas flight training centre development (the proposal).

Sydney Airport is pleased to support the proposal.

By way of background, the Sydney Gateway road project will deliver major new connections from Sydney Airport's Domestic and International terminal precincts to the Sydney motorway network at the St Peters Interchange. It will greatly improve the way people and freight travel to Sydney Airport and Port Botany.

As part of the project, Qantas Drive will be widened by approximately 16 metres. In turn, this will require the partial demolition of the existing Qantas flight training centre, which is located on the Sydney Airport site. To ensure NSW Roads and Maritime Services (Roads and Maritime) can meet its construction deadlines to deliver the project, we understand that the existing flight training centre must be vacated by 30 June 2021. Therefore, Qantas is seeking to relocate and construct a new flight training centre to facilitate the delivery of the Sydney Gateway road project.

By letter dated 11 June 2019, Sydney Airport commented on relevant matters under the *Airports (Protection of Airspace) Regulations 1996* and raised no objection to the erection of the new flight training centre to a maximum height of 47.5 metres AHD. Advice was also provided concerning the need to have regard to the *National Airports Safeguarding Framework Guideline B – Managing the risk of building generated windshear and turbulence* at airports.

The only other issue Sydney Airport wishes to raise is the need to ensure exposure of the proposed flight training centre to elevated noise levels is effectively managed.

Depending on the final timing of the development, the new flight training centre may be exposed to elevated noise levels during construction of the Sydney Gateway road project. As the road project will involve significant alterations to the existing Qantas Drive and

other nearby road infrastructure, we anticipate that construction equipment and methods will likely generate high impact noise levels, including the use jackhammers and excavators with rock breaker attachments. The equipment will be used in close proximity to the proposed flight training centre. This same issue may also arise during other future construction activities nearby, such as the rail duplication and other building construction projects.

Once the Sydney Gateway road project is completed, we also anticipate that the volume of traffic using Qantas Drive will increase, therefore exposing the new flight training centre to elevated road traffic noise levels.

Finally, as the Sydney Gateway road project will necessitate the removal of several on-airport buildings on the western side of Qantas Drive, areas to the east of Qantas Drive, including the proposed location of the flight training centre, will be newly exposed to elevated noise from on-airport ground-based aviation activities. These activities include aircraft engine ground running, which is essential for effective and safe aircraft operations and maintenance. Preliminary noise assessments indicate that existing noise levels at the location of the proposed flight training centre due to these essential activities could increase by up to 15 dB(A) once the buildings are removed. To further reduce the propagation of noise as a result, noise attenuation should be considered as part of the Sydney Gateway road project.

We understand that Roads and Maritime is aware that operation of the flight training centre is likely to be sensitive to these elevated noise levels. Accordingly, we believe that, as part of the proposal, flight simulator bays should be positioned within the new centre at suitable locations and that simulator bays on exposed building facades are appropriately acoustically insulated from likely external noise sources so as to provide appropriate acoustic conditions within the simulator bays and cabins.

Please feel free to contact me on (02) 9667 6423 or at joseph.chan@syd.com.au if you would further information.

Yours sincerely,



Joseph Chan
Manager, Development and Planning