



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
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Submission Cover Sheet

Inquiry into drone delivery systems in the ACT

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I believe Canberra is an excellent base for drone trials to occur. Locals heavily rely on delivery already and drone delivery in a densely populated city with minimal high rise buildings would be an innovative and efficient way to reduce congestion on roads and also result in reduced green house gas emissions from delivery vehicles. Canberra aims to be completely reliant on green energy and this is one effective avenue for reducing our air pollution. Deliveries would be able to occur at higher rates and would occur much sooner, saving locals money and time.

I was a participant in the drone delivery trial in Bonython over the last half a year. I cannot commend the trail enough; Wing provided a convenient and reliable service. The operators always clearly communicated their intentions and were open to any questions or assistance needed. They ensured all those involved were comfortable by explaining how the delivery process worked.

The ability for drones not only to deliver food for convenience, but also medicine at incredible speed to those who cannot leave their home or in an emergency is compelling reason enough to establish this reliable delivery method.

Drones are an inevitable part of our future, as motor vehicles and commercial aircraft became popularised, they also received backlash due to 'disruption', and yet they form a part of our everyday lives, Drones have been built to fight fires, rescue drowning swimmers, replant entire forests saving energy and time. It is a new technology like smartphones that will change the way we live for the better and provide a complete new array of services and conveniences for the population.

There definitely does need to be regulation and oversight on the use of drones within not the ACT and Australia as a whole. I use a personal drone for filming natural landscapes, but it is

would be too easy for someone to utilise a drone for nefarious purposes, whether its surveillance or disruption of restricted airspace. A simple licencing and registration system for both personal drones and businesses should be put in place.

As well as this, flight height restrictions on airspace, separating the sky into areas used for personal drones, business use, private aircraft and commercial aircraft, so all areas can be utilised safely.

Privacy is a topic often raised in the drone discussion. There needs to be regulation on surveillance and regulation of any business that utilises drones, but also an improved awareness from the public. The Wing delivery team explained to me the delivery system and they did not use a camera to record anything during flights, only to ensure the space was clear and the delivery was safe, which is obviously essential. If residents were aware of this, I am sure they would have felt more comfortable.

I do not believe there is any major environmental impact by drones, if so, only positive. Other than reducing carbon emissions as mentioned above, they do not effect the environment adversely in any way. I lived an area which had fairly heavy use of the drone delivery's and I utilised them often myself. The area is rich in natural life and I observe it daily, I noticed no adverse impacts on any plant or animal life. All the birds and kangaroos behaved as normal and remained in the area. The effect on wildlife was as small as commercial aircraft and private motor vehicles.

The noise levels produced by the delivery drones were also minimal. Throughout the entire trial many deliveries took place and I barely noticed their presence as deliveries were completed. My residence is one of the closest to the launch site and is flown over fairly frequently, but the impact was minimal to none. The loudest noise is produced only momentarily when the drone delivers something directly to your property, this is also minimal impact.

I do not have any domestic pets and so cannot comment.

On a personal note, I really enjoyed the service Wing provided, it was a fun and new delivery system and the quality of the goods provided was excellent. Any guests I had also really enjoyed the service. I would strongly recommend the service be endorsed and available to all Canberra residents.

Regards, Adam