

Forum On Western Sydney Airport

Record of Meeting 1

9:00 am – 2:00 pm, Friday 26 May 2017

Boardroom, Office of Governance Services

Western Sydney University – Penrith Campus (Werrington North)

Chair: Professor Peter Shergold AC

Item	Description	Key Discussion Points	Action Items
1.	Address by the Minister for Urban Infrastructure, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP	<p>The Minister for Urban Infrastructure, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP, welcomed members of Forum On Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• After 40 years or more of deliberation, the Government decided in 2014 to develop Western Sydney Airport at the Badgerys Creek site. This decision was supported by the work of previous governments, in particular the <i>Joint Study on aviation capacity in the Sydney region</i>.• The Government has overseen the completion of a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement and approval of an Airport Plan for the airport development.• FOWSA has a critically important role to ensure that community views are taken into account in the development of an airport for Western Sydney.• A diversity of community and stakeholder representation was sought when establishing FOWSA.• FOWSA will be dealing with technically complex issues and expert advice will be available to help build the technical knowledge of members.• The Government was looking for members to bring their opinions forward on a range of issues including flight paths, aircraft noise, impacts on communities and how outcomes from the airport can be leveraged to benefit the community.	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are expected to bring to FOWSA open engagement, curiosity and commitment on behalf of the communities and stakeholders they represent, and to build up their knowledge over the many years that FOWSA will exist. • Western Sydney Airport will be a catalyst to attract business and generate local jobs for Western Sydney. <p>Minister Fletcher said he was pleased that Professor Peter Shergold is able to lead FOWSA and thanked members for their participation in the forum.</p>	
2.	Welcome from the Chair and confirmation of agenda	<p>The Chair, Professor Peter Shergold AC, welcomed members to the inaugural meeting and acknowledged apologies received (at Appendix B of this meeting record).</p> <p>Professor Shergold acknowledged FOWSA’s statutory obligation to address issues relating to airspace arrangements and flight paths for the first stage airport development. The Chair also expressed his desire that FOWSA start from the proposition that development of the airport would offer enormous opportunities, while recognising it would also present real challenges.</p> <p>To avoid missing the opportunities created by the airport, members were advised that future meetings would look at what other airports are doing internationally in relation to issues such as the development of aerotropolises and high-tech business and educational hubs. The Chair noted the extensive range of issues FOWSA will address, including fuel delivery, biodiversity management and heritage values.</p> <p>Professor Shergold acknowledged the broad skills and community networks that members brought to FOWSA. He stated that while FOWSA was not a</p>	

		<p>decision-making body, he expected members would engage in robust and willing debate on issues.</p> <p>Professor Shergold noted that he would represent FOWSA on the Aviation Expert Steering Group established by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development (the Department) to oversee the technical airspace and flight path design.</p>	
3.	Introductions	<p>Members introduced themselves and identified their interest in the airport project and the outcomes they were seeking through their membership on FOWSA.</p> <p>Members identified numerous issues of importance for FOWSA to address including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maximising jobs, economic growth and benefits for communities; • ensuring adverse community and environmental impacts are minimised, including through the location of arrival and departure flight paths; • making Western Sydney Airport a world-leading airport for Australia; • identifying the differential outcomes for Western Sydney, Sydney and NSW; • recognising the special environmental values of the Blue Mountains; • making sure the project delivers infrastructure to support the airport and communities; and • examining the impacts of airport operations on flying schools operating out of Bankstown and Camden airports and on existing general aviation flight training areas. 	

4.	FOWSA Terms of Reference		
4.1	Purpose of the Terms of Reference	<p>Members were advised that the Terms of Reference identify the statutory role for FOWSA to address community and stakeholder views regarding the airspace and flight path design process. They also require FOWSA to look at the economic, social and educational opportunities raised by the airport's development. Professor Shergold confirmed that the Terms of Reference provide for FOWSA to consider issues such as an aerotropolis.</p> <p>Members expressed the importance of FOWSA being a partnership and discussed the need for FOWSA to be as transparent as possible in order to be credible in the eyes of the broader community. The Chair stated that FOWSA should seek to ensure public discussion and debate about the airport are well informed. He also emphasised the need for all members to respect those bringing forward views on particular matters.</p>	
4.2	Role of FOWSA members and engagement with the broader community	<p>FOWSA's role as a community forum was discussed. Members were advised of their obligation to consult on a regular basis with stakeholders, parliamentary colleagues and communities. The Chair acknowledged that regular community and stakeholder communication by members would maintain transparency and help get FOWSA messages out.</p> <p>Members were advised that the Department has a number of established channels that can be used to disseminate information to the broader community about the issues being addressed by FOWSA. The Western Sydney Airport website includes a FOWSA webpage and allows people to lodge questions via email or telephone. The Department also attends pop-up events at shopping centres and community events, conducts regular local government outreach activities and sends out a quarterly Western Sydney Airport Community Update newsletter to about 10,000 homes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FOWSA Secretariat to distribute the link for Western Sydney Airport Community Update newsletters to members. 2. FOWSA Secretariat to include an item in the Meeting 2 agenda for discussing FOWSA's communications strategy.

		<p>The establishment of good community consultation mechanisms was viewed as being essential to FOWSA’s effectiveness, transparency and credibility. Members engaged in a general discussion about additional ways to get the public involved in the work of FOWSA. Mechanisms that were put forward for future consideration included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • making published materials, such as the Community Update newsletter, available to members to distribute either themselves or through councils and other communication networks; • providing an online portal and web form for the general public to pose questions or raise issues regarding the work of FOWSA; • conference attended by invited community and stakeholder representatives; • making parts of FOWSA meetings open to the public; • developing a social media platform; and • conducting a public forum from time to time, such as a citizen jury event. <p>The Chair asked the Department to provide at the next meeting its ideas on getting FOWSA messages out to the community as a basis for addressing these matters in more depth.</p> <p>Members agreed to share email contact details and biographical notes with each other to facilitate member interactions and communication.</p>	<p>3. FOWSA Secretariat to distribute member email addresses and biographies to members.</p>
4.3	Role of the Department and the Aviation Expert Steering Group.	<p>Michael Gregory from the Department explained the respective roles of the Department and the Aviation Expert Steering Group (ESG) in relation to FOWSA. The ESG’s principal role is to oversee the detailed planning and technical design of airspace arrangements, flight paths and relevant operational procedures for single runway operations at Western Sydney Airport.</p>	

		<p>The ESG comprises representatives from the Department, Airservices Australia and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority. The airport developer, WSA Co., will also be invited to join the ESG after it is established in the next financial year. The Department and other ESG members are expected to attend future FOWSA meetings to provide technical briefings on the airspace and flight path design process.</p> <p>In response to members' questions, Mr Gregory confirmed that the ESG would enlist outside technical expertise as needed and will conduct extensive consultation with the aviation industry during the airspace design. This will include consultation with groups such as the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia and Sydney Airport Group.</p>	
4.4	Probity Briefing	<p>Cathy Reid (Australian Government Solicitor) provided members with a probity briefing on behalf of the Department. Members were advised that they should be mindful of potential conflicts of interest and that any such matters should be drawn to the attention of the Chair if, and when, they arise. Professor Shergold remarked that any conflicts would likely be “perceived conflicts”, but that for a community forum such conflicts are important for members to bear in mind.</p> <p>Ms Reid also noted that at times members may be privy to confidential Government information — some of which may be suitable for sharing within members' respective organisations but not more broadly. Members were advised that confidential information will be marked as such. The Chair will identify confidential information that is the subject of discussion.</p> <p>Members observed that the only way the Government can provide confidential information to FOWSA is if information is managed and treated with respect. If it is not, the open nature of discussions at FOWSA will be compromised.</p>	

		It was agreed that only the Chair would speak on behalf of FOWSA, informed by the views expressed by its members.	
5.	Meeting protocols and expectations	<p>The Chair outlined his expectations that as standard practice members should not provide alternatives, delegates or observers to attend FOWSA meetings. The Terms of Reference permit State or Federal Senators or MPs to appoint an alternative or proxy to attend in their place. For the purpose of continuity, only one person should be identified as the proxy for a Senator or MP.</p> <p>The Chair advised that relevant meeting papers would be sent out electronically to members at least a week in advance of FOWSA meetings.</p>	4. FOWSA Secretariat to distribute meeting papers to members electronically at least one week in advance of FOWSA.
6.	Western Sydney Airport project update	<p>Garth Taylor from the Department provided a Western Sydney Airport project update. Discussions based on the presentation handed out to members elicited the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Sydney Airport will be a full service airport catering for domestic, international and freight services; • the Australian Government has announced it will build Western Sydney Airport. This follows Sydney Airport’s decision that it will not take up its right of first refusal to build and operate Western Sydney Airport; • the Australian Government has allocated up to \$5.3 billion over ten years to establish a Commonwealth-owned company, WSA Co., to build and operate the Western Sydney Airport; • land use planning and zoning in the vicinity of the airport site is being addressed by all three levels of government through the Western Sydney City Deal and the work of the Greater Sydney Commission; • the 50/230 degree alignment of the airport’s runways is set and has been determined by the shape of the airport site; 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a second runway would be required in about 2050 based on current forecasts; • noise emissions from freight aircraft are no greater than those from regular passenger transport aircraft; and • over the last 20 years or so, new houses within a certain near proximity to the airport have been required to incorporate noise attenuation measures in compliance with State and local government directives. <p>At the conclusion of the update, the Chair indicated to members that these were clear messages to communicate about the Western Sydney Airport.</p>	
7.	Arrangements for upcoming 2017 meetings	<p>The Chair discussed with members the scheduling and planned agenda items for Meetings 2 and 3 of FOWSA.</p> <p>It was resolved that Meeting 2 will be held on Tuesday 29 August 2017 and the Department will liaise with Airservices Australia in order to arrange a site visit to Sydney Airport Air Traffic Control Tower. The meeting is planned to address the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FOWSA communications strategy; • introduction to the process of airspace planning and design; and • employment. <p>It was resolved that Meeting 3 will be held on Tuesday 21 November 2017 and is planned to address the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an introduction to aircraft noise management; • an update on rail considerations for Western Sydney and the airport; and • an update on the Department’s implementation of biodiversity related Airport Plan conditions. 	

		<p>The Chair invited members to identify issues for consideration by FOWSA. The Chair acknowledged the suggestion that it would be beneficial for a representative of the Greater Sydney Commission to address a future FOWSA meeting.</p> <p>Members agreed it would be best for most attendees if FOWSA meetings were held in Western Sydney.</p>	
8.	Other business	No other matters of business were raised.	
9.	Airport site tour	Members participated in a site tour of the Badgerys Creek airport site and were shown key places of interest in and around the site.	

Status of Action Items

Action Item Number	Action Item	Status
1	FOWSA Secretariat to distribute the link for Western Sydney Airport Community Update newsletters to members.	Completed.
2	FOWSA Secretariat to include an item in the Meeting 2 agenda for discussing FOWSA's communications strategy.	To be completed.
3	FOWSA Secretariat to distribute member email addresses and biographies to members.	Completed.
4	FOWSA Secretariat to distribute meeting papers to members electronically at least one week in advance of FOWSA.	Ongoing.

Attendees

Professor Peter Shergold AC (Chair) – Chancellor, Western Sydney University

Senator the Hon Marise Payne – Senator for New South Wales

Dr Mike Freeland MP – Federal Member for Macarthur

Ms Anne Stanley MP – Federal Member for Werriwa

Ms Alison Morgan – Director, Sydney Region, New South Wales Department of Premier and Cabinet

Cr John Thain – Mayor, Penrith City Council

Ms Kiersten Fishburn – CEO, Liverpool City Council

Ms Fiona Mann – Strategic Activities Planner, Hawkesbury City Council

Mr Luke Nicholls – Director, City and Community Outcomes, Blue Mountains City Council

Mr Paul Tosi – former General Manager, Campbelltown City Council

Ms Joanne Bromilow – Resident of Blaxland

Mr Jacob Idiculas – Resident of Bossley Park

Mr John Walton – Resident of Silverdale

Mr Wayne Willmington – Resident of Luddenham

Mr David Borger – Western Sydney Director, Sydney Business Chamber

Mr Bob Germaine – Executive Officer, Regional Development Australia Sydney

Mr Damian Callachor – Senior Manager, Government Industry and International Affairs, Qantas

Mr Adrian Sloopjes – Manager, Air Traffic Management and Meteorology, Virgin Australia

Mr Mike Higgins – CEO, Regional Aviation Association of Australia

Ms Lee de Winton – CEO, Sydney Metro Airports Bankstown and Camden

Apologies

Mr Christopher Patterson MP – New South Wales State Member for Camden

Mr Gordon Henwood – Resident of Mulgoa

Ms Adriana Care – Resident of Camden-Narellan