

Forum on Western Sydney Airport

Forum on Western Sydney Airport - Record of Meeting 25

10:00am –12:30pm, Thursday 14 November 2024

Penrith Panthers

123 Mulgoa Rd, Penrith NSW 2750

Chair: Ms Lee de Winton

Item	Description	Key Discussion Points	Action Items
1.	Welcome from Chair, confirmation of the agenda and opening remarks	<p>The Chair, Ms Lee de Winton:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opened the meeting by formally acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which the meeting was held.• Welcomed everyone to the 25th Forum on Western Sydney Airport (FoWSA), the third FoWSA meeting for 2024.• Noted changes in FoWSA representation:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Daniel Jarosch, CEO Aeria Group Management has moved on from his role and Mr Tom Smith the new CEO for Aeria Group Management will be the Aeria representative going forward.- Acknowledgment that Mr Matthew Martyn-Jones, has taken up the role of WSA Co's Chief Corporate Affairs Officer.• Noted the apologies to the meeting (refer to Appendix B for attendees).	

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2.	Action Items	<p>Ms de Winton noted there were seven action items from the last meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action item 1 – Department to send direct links to the proposal material published online to FoWSA members. • Action item 2 – Department to consider additional community information and feedback session at Warragamba Town Hall. • Action item 3 – Department to include Mulgoa in letterbox drop. • Action item 4 – WSA Co to advise on whether or not they are able to provide their submission. • Action item 5 – Secretariat to circulate link to members for Transport NSW consultation on new bus services following the meeting. • Action item 6 – Secretariat to share details on Australian Government infrastructure programs with members. • Action item 7 - Secretariat to circulate link for the Biodiversity Offset Delivery Plan Implementation Report 2022/2023 to members. <p>The Secretariat provided the action items 1,5,6 & 7 to members on the 2 August 2024. A community engagement and feedback session was held in Warragamba on 21 August 2024. Residents in Mulgoa received a flyer on the flight path proposals in their letterboxes in August 2024. WSA Co confirmed with Dr Frelander’s office that they did not prepare a submission on the Federal Infrastructure Review. All action items to be closed.</p> <p>The FoWSA Secretariat also noted that there remain two open action items from Meeting 20, and one action item from Meeting 23 – for FoWSA to receive an update from Transport for NSW and the WPCA (now Bradfield Development Agency), as well as the results from the final tranche of market research on the draft EIS and preliminary flight paths. The FoWSA Secretariat will work on organising these to be delivered at a meeting in 2025.</p>	

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3.	Final EIS and next steps	<p>Presentation on the final Environmental Impact Statement and next steps</p> <p>Mr David Jansen, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts provided the group with an update on the final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and next steps.</p> <p>Ms Melissa McIntosh, Member for Lindsay, asked if the noise mitigation presented in the final EIS included the same number of homes as in the draft EIS, or if the number of homes to be insulated had increased.</p> <p>Mr Jansen advised that the number of properties impacted by Noise Insulation and Property Acquisitions (NIPA) policy is forecast to grow, noting the updated policy in the EIS. He noted the Government is expanding rather than shrinking the footprint for noise mitigation. When the NIPA program guidelines come out a detailed map will be available for review.</p> <p>Mr Peter Munro, representative for Aeria Management, stated that a number of submissions were looking at NIPA to be extended to the airports that have facilitated impacts in the EIS. He queried if the final EIS addressed this or if they remained beyond consideration.</p> <p>Mr Jansen advised that the policy is limited to properties around Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport.</p> <p>Mr Todd Carney, Mayor of Penrith stated his position is that the extent of the NIPA is insufficient and that older style homes should be considered for the policy. Mr Carney also stated the cumulative impact of noise has not been taken into consideration in developing the NIPA?. How can councils plan for the future when they have no indication for the second runway?</p> <p>Mr Jansen explained that the Federal Government’s policy has always been to mitigate against noise from WSI, he acknowledged that there is already existing noise, but explained that the policy has always been about aircraft noise generated by WSI and there has been no</p>	

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		<p>direction from government contrary to that. He noted that the eligibility criteria for WSI is the most generous ever offered to residents near an airport and the government has applied the widest possible lens to extend noise insulation to affected residents.</p> <p>Mr Carney expressed that a lot of the extra noise from the airport will be due to vehicle traffic. He noted his disagreement with the policy as it is presented. Mr Carney also clearly stated his sentiments had been outlined in the submission presented by Penrith Council.</p> <p>Ms McIntosh noted her agreement with the Mayor of Penrith.</p> <p>Ms Susan Templeman, Member for Macquarie, stated in the absence of Blue Mountains City Council, who were not in attendance at the meeting, she would like it on the record, that the Blue Mountains City Council have stated publicly they feel the submissions report repeats the justification in the EIS and they do not feel the changes presented in the final EIS go far enough. Ms Templeman noted that she shared many of these concerns.</p> <p>Mr Munro stated that a number of submissions raised issues with likely economic impact on General Aviation and called for a more comprehensive and detailed analysis than what is presented in the draft EIS.</p> <p>Mr Jansen explained that the economic assessment is done for the purpose of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act). The economic assessment is focused on the action, he acknowledged that there are a range of other pressures in the Sydney basin, however this is not the intention of the EIS to review.</p> <p>Mr Munro stated the final EIS committed the government to continue consultation with smaller airport operators, and queried how consultation would work.</p> <p>Mr Jansen explained that General Aviation has always had a strong focus as part of government policy, and highlighted initiatives including those proposed in the White Paper.</p>	

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		<p>Mayor Gould stated he would like to put on record his disappointment with the outcome of the EIS. He stated that his community seems worse off following the release of the final EIS.</p> <p>Mayor Gould raised that previously there had been a commitment by the government to develop the 2063 ANEF contours, and questioned if there still a commitment to provide the ANEF to help local communities plan for future impacts of aircraft noise. Mr Jansen advised the commitment to develop the ANEF still stands and is included within the Airport Plan.</p>	
4.	Changes to the preliminary flight paths	<p>Mr Matt Shepherd, from To70, provided an update on the five changes to the preliminary flight paths as presented in the final EIS.</p> <p>Mr Munro queried the airspace design, specifically when looking at aircraft overflight, he questioned whether only current residential properties were considered or if the airspace designers also considered future proposed development.</p> <p>Mr Shepherd explained that both data sets were considered, and that the airspace design team worked closely with NSW State Planning to obtain maps to allow them to undertake this analysis.</p> <p>Ms de Winton queried how many submissions referred to or made suggestions relating to the five changes presented in the final EIS.</p> <p>Mr Shepherd explained that the team had received a significant number of submissions from the lower and upper Blue Mountains as well as the Silverdale and Wollondilly area, but it was hard to quantify exactly how many resulted in the changes made, and this can be taken as a question on notice.</p> <p>Ms Templeman stated that the residents of Linden can appreciate that there are fewer impacts on them than presented in the draft EIS, however there are still profound impacts and the lower Blue Mountains cannot see anything in the final EIS that acknowledged their concerns.</p>	<p>Action item 1: The department to provide Members with the number of submissions received that referred to the changes now presented in the final EIS.</p>

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		<p>Mr Shepherd advised that the airspace design team considered long and hard the submissions received from this area, however the team did not want to move the noise from one location to another, and the need to consider procedural fairness of the process. One example of this was RWY 05 where multiple submissions suggested the relocation of the southbound departure flight path further to the north of the proposed flight path. Relocation of this flight path further north was examined during the submission review process and this option was not supported as the change would delay climb for the departing aircraft for a significant period, extending aircraft overflight at lower altitudes across additional residential locations.</p> <p>Ms Templeman raised the alignment of the runway and queried if the airspace design team was confident that they have the best outcome considering the way the runway is set.</p> <p>Mr Shepherd reminded the Members of the planning phase and the 16 different concepts developed for the WSI flight paths. He noted the design that has progressed has the lowest noise footprint and scored the best in the assessment phase. The airspace design team evolved and improved the design and it is the best the team can deliver within the constraints of the Sydney basin.</p> <p>Mayor Gould touched on change 5, and queried if it had taken into consideration future Greater MacArthur population growth.</p> <p>Mr Shepherd responded that the airspace design team had placed the flight path in such a way that it passed over areas of lower residential density, and the team were confident they had placed it in the best location in regard to current and future overflight of residents.</p> <p>Mayor Gould stated that he had many questions from the community regarding the final design, and the community had raised that the design seems worse than the initial EIS.</p> <p>The Chair asked that members be shown the noise contours again at a future FoWSA meeting.</p>	

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		<p>Mr Ryan, Representative of Business Western Sydney enquired about the deletion of any north west corridor and noted that although they are small communities they may not have experienced any aircraft overflight previously. Mr Ryan asked why the option to fly over the Hawkesbury is no longer being considered. Mr Shepherd explained that by day the current design has no flight paths over this area, and for the flight paths at night the airspace design team did a lot of mapping to ensure the flight paths went over areas of lower population density.</p> <p>Mr Ryan asked if there was future opportunity to change the flight paths.</p> <p>Mr Shepherd explained that flight paths are always an evolving process, however it is important for the airspace designers to develop flight paths that have the least impact on community. Once the second runway is built there will likely need to be some changes to the flight paths, and this can also incorporate any future technological advancements in reducing noise on communities.</p>	<p>Action item 2: The department to review the noise contours with members at a future meeting.</p>
5.	Update from the Air Navigation Service Provider	<p>Ms Annette Dittmar, from Airservices Australia, provided FoWSA members with an update on the community engagement for the detailed design phase of the flight paths.</p> <p>Mr Munro asked when the airspace for WSI change comes into effect.</p> <p>Ms Dittmar explained the airspace would become active approximately 6 months before the operation of the airport. Ms Dittmar also explained that Airservices Australia need to work within the Aeronautical Information Regulation and Control (AIRAC) cycle, which is the international cycle used to update airport and navigation data to ensure global consistency.</p>	
6.	Update from WSA Co Limited (WSA Co)	<p>Ms Katy Hannouch from WSA Co provided members with an update on WSI construction, the signing of new airlines and other activities since the last FoWSA meeting in August 2024. Ms Hannouch also presented a video on the test flights that occurred in October 2024, including the first landing on the runway by an aircraft.</p>	<p>Action item 3: WSA Co to provide members with data community events they have completed and the number of</p>

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		<p>Ms de Winton asked WSA Co how many community events they have completed and the number of people engaged with at these events.</p> <p>WSA Co advised they did not have the data on them and would take the question on notice.</p>	<p>people engaged with at these events.</p>
7.	Next meeting and other business	The Chair thanked the department, To70, Airservices and WSA Co for their presentations and the work they are doing to engage and consult with community.	
		The meeting was closed by the Chair at 12.02pm.	

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Status of Outstanding and Ongoing Action Items

Appendix A

Meeting 1, 26 May 2017

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
4.	FoWSA Secretariat to distribute meeting papers to members electronically one week in advance of FoWSA	Ongoing

Meeting 7, 29 March 2019

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
6.	Secretariat to consider future presentations to FoWSA on the state of air and water quality in Western Sydney, and on the use of alternative fuels and technologies at WSA, including bioenergy	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.

Meeting 11, 19 June 2020

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
2.	Ongoing action for Secretariat to collect suggestions from members for future FoWSA meeting topics	Ongoing

Meeting 20, 27 June 2023

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
1.	FoWSA Secretariat to provide members with weekly update on planned community engagement activities.	Ongoing
2.	The Department to ensure the release of the preliminary flight paths can be found on its website at www.infrastructure.gov.au	Ongoing

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3.	FoWSA to receive an update from Transport for NSW next year on the transport projects to support the opening of WSI.	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.
4.	FoWSA to receive briefing from WPCA on infrastructure activity in Western Sydney at future meeting.	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.

Meeting 23, 14 March 2024

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
2.	Department to provide an update on results from the final tranche of market research at the next FoWSA.	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.
3.	Airservices to present on the aviation and firefighting station being built at WSI.	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.

Meeting 24, 2 August 2024

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
1.	Department to send direct links of the proposal material published online to FoWSA members.	Closed. Secretariat sent email to members on 2 August 2024.
2.	Department to consider additional community information and feedback session at Warragamba Town Hall.	Closed. Session held at Warragamba Town Hall on 21 August 2024.
3.	Department to include Mulgoa in the letterbox drop.	Closed. Department has included Mulgoa in the letterbox drop for the WSI flight path proposals.

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4.	WSA Co to advise on whether or not they are able to provide their submission	Closed. WSA Co did not prepare a submission.
5.	Secretariat to circulate link to members on the Transport NSW consultation on new bus services following the meeting.	Closed. Secretariat sent email to members on 2 August 2024.
6.	Secretariat to share details on Australian Government infrastructure programs with members	Closed. Secretariat sent email to members on 2 August 2024.
7.	Secretariat to circulate the link for the Biodiversity Offset Delivery Plan Implementation Report 2022/2023 to members	Closed. Secretariat sent email to members on 2 August 2024.

Meeting 24, 14 November 2024

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
1.	The department to provide Members with the number of submissions received that referred to the changes now presented in the final EIS.	Open.
2.	The department to review the noise contours with members at a future meeting.	Open. To be provided at future meeting in 2025.
3.	WSA Co to provide members with data community events they have completed and the number of people engaged with at these events.	Open.

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Appendix B

Attendees

Ms Lee de Winton – Chair
Mr Jacob Idiculas – Resident of Bossley Park
Mr Gordon Henwood – Resident of Mulgoa
Mr Wayne Willmington – Resident of Luddenham
Mr Peter Munro – Aeria Management Group
Ms Susan Templeman MP – Federal Member for Macquarie
Mrs Melissa McIntosh MP – Federal Member for Lindsay
Ms Kelli Bennett-Smith – Office of the Federal Member for Hume
Ms Gina Metcalfe – Bradfield Development Authority
Mr Paul Veigel – Hawkesbury City Council
Mr Todd Carney – Mayor, Penrith City Council
Ms Georgina Hovell Kwaszenko – Representative Qantas Group
Mr Matt Gould – Mayor, Wollondilly Shire Council
Ms Gina Metcalfe – Bradfield Development Authority
Mr Nick Ryan – Representative of Business Western Sydney
Ms Julie McAlpin – Representative of Regional Development Australia
Mr Scott Mitchell – Virgin Australia
Ms Katy Hannouch – WSA Co
Ms Catherine Payne – WSA Co
Mr David Wells – Airservices Australia
Mr David Jansen – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Ms Lulu Ou – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Ms Anna Rynne – Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Mr Alf Duzcek - Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts

Guest Presenters:

Mr Matt Shepherd – To70
Ms Annette Dittmar – Airservices Australia

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Apologies

Mr Greg Copeland – Resident of Camden

The Hon Angus Taylor MP – Federal Member for Hume

Dr Mike Freelander MP – Federal Member for Macarthur

Ms Anne Stanley MP – Federal Member for Werriwa

Dr Rosemary Dillon – CEO, Blue Mountains City Council

Ms Lindy Deitz – General Manager, Campbelltown City Council

Jason Breton – A/g CEO, Liverpool City Council

Mr Chris Kwong – Qantas Group

Ms Anna Guillane – Chair Regional Development Australia

Mr David Trevelyan – Basair

Mr David Borger – Business Western Sydney

Mr Rob Walker – Regional Aviation Association Australia

Ms Jo Bromilow – Resident of Blaxland

Mr Matthew Martyn-Jones – WSA Co