

Forum on Western Sydney Airport

Forum on Western Sydney Airport - Record of Meeting 19

2:00pm – 4:30pm, Saturday 18 March 2023

Penrith Panthers Leagues Club

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 the members of the public who were observing the meeting and provided an introduction to the role and purpose of FoWSA, specifically noting that FoWSA is a consultative forum, and is not intended to be a technical or decision making forum.• Outlined how FoWSA members represent, and work with the community, and encouraged the audience to engage with their relevant FoWSA members to find out more information and shape the agenda of future meetings.• Noted changes in FoWSA representation by welcoming Mr John Ajaka as the member representing Liverpool City Council and welcoming Ms Donna Marshall as an observer representing Airservices Australia.• Confirmed the agenda for the meeting.• Noted the apologies to the meeting (refer to Appendix B for attendees). The apologies included:	

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Item	Description	Key Discussion Points	Action Items
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr Steve Campbell – Regional Aviation Association of Australia ○ Ms Inga Davis – Western Parkland City Authority ○ Ms Lindy Deitz – Campbelltown City Council ○ Ms Rosemary Dillon – Blue Mountains City Council ○ Mr Eddie Dogramaci – Hawkesbury City Council ○ Dr Mike Freelander MP – Member for Macarthur ○ Cr Matt Gould – Mayor, Wollondilly Shire Council ○ Mr Gordon Henwood – Resident of Mulgoa ○ Cr Tricia Hitchen – Mayor, Penrith City Council ○ Senator the Hon Marise Payne ○ Ms Anne Stanley MP – Member for Werriwa ○ The Hon Angus Taylor MP – Member for Hume ○ Mr David Trevelyan – Basair ○ Mr John Walton – Resident of Silverdale ○ Mr Wayne Willmington – Resident of Luddenham 	
2.	Action items	<p>The Chair noted that there were 3 outstanding action items from the 14 October 2022 FoWSA meeting and 6 outstanding action items from the 2 December 2022 FoWSA meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Status updates were provided and all action items are now closed. 	
3.	Department update	<p>Mr Richard Wood (First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division) presented an update from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department).</p> <p>Mr Wood provided an update on the Department’s work to develop the preliminary flight paths for single runway operations at WSI and undertake the</p>	<p>Action item 1: The Department to provide FoWSA members with a briefing on ambient noise testing results when details are available.</p> <p>Action item 2: The Department to provide FoWSA members with</p>

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		<p>environmental assessment. An overview of the process to date was provided, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The preliminary flight paths were referred to the then Minister for the Environment in 2021 for advice on the method of environmental assessment. The Minister advised that a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be required, and the Department commenced work on the draft EIS in the first quarter of 2022. • The draft EIS will include assessments of the impact of environmental, social and economic factors resulting from the preliminary flight paths for Western Sydney Airport, including noise, land uses, biodiversity, health and wellbeing and air quality. • The Department will release the draft EIS for public exhibition in the second half of 2023. <p>Mr Wood noted that the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP, recently announced details of the preliminary flight paths will be released to the public by June 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The release of the draft EIS has been delayed slightly. Commercial airline flight simulator testing of the preliminary flight paths found that two flight paths, out of more than 60, were not suitable for some aircraft types and required minor redesign. • These flight paths have now been redesigned and retested in flight simulators to ensure they will be flyable in real world conditions. 	<p>a briefing on the biodiversity offset and rehabilitation activities at the Orchard Hills defence establishment site.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environmental and noise impacts of the redesigned flight paths now need to be fully assessed to be included in the draft EIS. This takes some additional time in terms of computer processing, and post processing analysis, and has resulted in a minor delay to the release of the draft EIS. • When information on the preliminary flight paths is released in June 2023, it will be supported by an online flight path and noise tool, which will feature interactive mapping and address search functions to let users understand the flight paths and noise modelling. • The Department has also released a new Online Community Portal website today. This portal - wsiflightpaths.gov.au - provides a one stop for information on the flight paths and EIS. The portal currently includes information on the flight path and EIS processes, and details of upcoming community engagement events, including community information stalls at different locations where people can come and ask questions, and find out about the flight paths and EIS processes. <p>Mr Wood provided an update on the biodiversity offset activities the Department is required to undertake to compensate for the protected species and ecosystems affected by the construction of WSI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the NSW biodiversity credit market, the Department has secured remaining offset obligations for a vulnerable pea flower shrub, known as <i>Dillwynia Tenuifolia</i>. • The Airport Plan requires the Department to report to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water on its annual implementation of biodiversity offset activities. The Department's latest 	

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		<p>annual implementation report can be found at www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au</p> <p>Mr Wood also provided an update on the work of the Department to develop an Aviation White Paper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aviation White Paper will set out the Australian Government’s long-term vision for aviation, guide continued recovery of the sector and identify opportunities for sustainability and engagement with the community. • The Terms of Reference, outlining the scope, themes and key deliverables of the White Paper were released by the Government on 7 February 2023. • A Green Paper outlining key challenges and opportunities for the sector will be released in mid-2023 and its development will be informed by the Terms of Reference submissions, roundtable sessions and direct engagements. • Following the release of the Green Paper, the Department will undertake a second round of more detailed consultation which will be considered during the development of the White Paper. The White Paper is expected to be released in the first half of 2024. <p>Mr Wood took questions from FoWSA members at the end of the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Susan Templeman MP asked if ambient noise testing, as part of the EIS process, has been completed and whether results can be shared with FoWSA members. The Department advised that while outcomes of the 	

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		<p>testing are not available yet, they will be included in the draft EIS and associated technical papers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair asked the Department, as an action item, to provide FoWSA members with a briefing on ambient noise testing results when details are available. • Ms Melissa McIntosh MP asked for an update in relation to biodiversity offset activities at the Orchard Hills defence establishment site. Mr Wood noted the nature of the site and considerable rehabilitation activities underway and that the annual biodiversity implementation report will be released in the coming months. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Chair asked the Department, as an action item, to provide FoWSA members with a briefing on the biodiversity offset and rehabilitation activities at the Orchard Hills defence establishment site. • Ms McIntosh noted the Department’s advice on the delay to the draft EIS and asked whether any further delays might be expected. Mr Wood noted that flight path design and implementation is a key critical path item to ensure WSI’s opening by the end of 2026. The process requires environmental impact assessment, community consultation, detailed design by Airservices Australia, followed by independent safety assessment by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority. Taking the time now to ensure the preliminary flight paths meet required safety outcomes, and redesign and retest as required, means that the likelihood of delays further downstream can be minimised. 	

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4.	Flight path design journey and considerations of the flight paths	<p>Mr Matt Shepherd from To70 (a specialist aviation consulting company, supporting the Department to undertake the flight path design process) provided a comprehensive presentation on the process used to design flight paths and the journey so far. Mr Shepherd’s presentation covered the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance structure for the flight path design process, including the role of the Minister, key agencies (the Department, CASA and Airservices Australia) and the groups tasked with undertaking the design process (Expert Steering, Joint Implementation and Technical Working Groups). • The high-level project plan for flight path design and implementation, outlining the following phases – planning; preliminary design; environmental assessment; detailed design and implementation. • The airspace and flight path design process, including the flight path design principles from the Western Sydney Airport Plan, the work undertaken to identify stakeholder requirements, and the process to assess performance of the draft preliminary options for flight path models. • The process to document airspace design decisions and account for complexity and constraints of the Sydney Basin airspace, including the need to provide containment areas for controlled airspace; impacts and implications to military airspace at Richmond and Orchard Hills; equity of airspace access to general aviation airports and the different runway modes that will be used at WSI. • Visual image showing current aircraft overflight tracks associated with the existing Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport. 	<p>Action item 3: The Department to distribute Mr Shepherd’s flight path design presentation to members, with the meeting minutes.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Traffic Control procedures, covering how the airspace will be operated by Airservices Australia, including navigation and separation standards for aircraft. • Technical advice used to inform the flight path design process, including engagement with airlines, airports and industry bodies, and details of additional social impact analysis work undertaken to inform the EIS process. <p>Mr Shepherd took questions from FoWSA members at the end of the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Scott Mitchell (Virgin Australia) asked if the working groups had considered use of Richmond airspace in conjunction with Airservices Australia’s OneSKY program. Mr Shepherd confirmed this was a consideration as the Department of Defence is part of the WSI flight paths Technical Working Group. • Ms Susan Templeman MP asked how planning will accommodate emergency operations and the impacts of events such as bushfires. Mr Shepherd advised this is a key consideration for flight path design, and that air traffic control will always prioritise emergency operations. Planning for the impacts of events such as bushfires has been included in contingency testing of the preliminary flight paths. • Ms Templeman noted the wide spread of aircraft tracks in the Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport flight path image shown in the presentation. Mr Shepherd confirmed that this flight path spread could be expected for WSI as aircraft generally do not stay on a single track and may deviate for many operational reasons. 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair noted that the ‘merge point’ concept, identified in the proof of concept flight paths presented in the 2016 EIS, is no longer being considered. Mr Shepherd confirmed the ‘merge point’ concept where aircraft arrivals would converge over one residential area is not being used as the basis of the current flight path design process. Mr Shepherd did point out that the need for aircraft to line up with the runway before landing means aircraft will effectively ‘merge’ on final approach. • Ms Melissa McIntosh MP asked if there is scope for aircraft using WSI to use Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport airspace when it is not being used, for example, during curfew hours. Mr Shepherd confirmed the design of the preliminary flight paths allows for use of Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport airspace, when available, and that this provides favourable noise outcomes. Mr Shepherd also noted the ability to overfly the Orchard Hills restricted airspace when it is not being used. • Ms Templeman requested that Mr Shepherd’s presentation be made available with the minutes of this meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The minutes and presentations are available at www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au/community-partners/forum 	
5 & 6.	Community and stakeholder engagement plan for 2023 and the Online Community Portal	<p>Ms Deborah Palmer from WSP Australia (supporting the Department to manage community and stakeholder engagement) provided a presentation on the community and stakeholder engagement plan for 2023 and the Online Community Portal website. Ms Palmer’s presentation covered the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and stakeholder consultation is an essential obligation to satisfy the Minister for the Environment’s Guidelines for the draft EIS. 	<p>Action item 4: The Department to provide an update on the planned schedule of community engagement events to members at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action item 5: The Department to consider extending the</p>

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Item	Description	Key Discussion Points	Action Items
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement activities in the second half of 2022, as part of Phase 2 of the community and stakeholder engagement plan, have seen the Department hold 17 community information stalls across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains, with over 2,600 people directly engaged with. Numerous stakeholder briefings for local councils, industry and community groups have also been held. • The engagement plan has now entered Phase 3 – Prepare for Public Exhibition, which will continue to build awareness and literacy of the flight path design and EIS processes ahead of the release of the draft EIS. • The Department has released a new Online Community portal website dedicated to providing information on the flight path design and draft EIS. The portal will contain all newly released public information brochures and fact sheets, and also include details of upcoming community events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The portal address is wsiflightpaths.gov.au • The portal will also host the draft EIS and interactive flight paths and noise tool when they are released. • The Department is commencing a new round of community information stall events. The following events have been confirmed, with more events to follow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saturday 25 March – Camden Show ○ Friday 28 April – Hawkesbury Show ○ Saturday 29 April – Wallacia Festival ○ Saturday 30 April – Multicultural EID Festival, Fairfield 	<p>planned one-day community information stall at the 2023 Hawkesbury Show.</p>

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Item	Description	Key Discussion Points	Action Items
		<p>Ms Palmer took questions from FoWSA members at the end of the presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Susan Templeman MP noted that the Hawkesbury Show runs over 3 days and, as a major regional event, attracts many visitors. Ms Templeman requested the Department consider attendance for more than one day, as the Saturday is traditionally the busiest day of the show. Ms Palmer noted that the Department is also holding community events on other days that weekend, but undertook to explore whether Hawkesbury Show attendance could be extended. 	
7.	WSA update	<p>Mr Scott MacKillop from Western Sydney Airport Corporation (WSA) provided a progress update on the WSI project. Mr MacKillop’s presentation covered the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSI is on track to open by the end of 2026. Completion of major airport works will finish in 2025, at which point operational readiness activities will commence. • Construction milestones for 2023 will include completion of the terminal roof; installation of over 3,000 aeronautical ground lights in the runway; installation of the baggage handling system and start of surfacing and pavement works on the runway and taxiways. • The major construction packages have reached the following progress milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Major earthworks – 99% ○ Terminal – 27% ○ Airside – 18% ○ Landside – 18% • Over the last quarter, WSA has: 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commenced registrations of interest for food and commercial retail outlets in the terminal. ○ Reached a milestone of \$400 million invested in local Western Sydney businesses, as part of airport construction. ○ Been provisionally allocated its three-letter code – WSI – by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). ○ Announced a partnership with NBN Co to connect the airport to NBN’s network and lay over 25 km of fibre optic cable. ○ Undertaken extensive community engagement activities including community information events and careers seminars. 	
8.	Other business	<p>The Chair updated the forum on the proposed FoWSA meeting calendar for 2023. It is expected that the next FoWSA meeting will be held prior to the release of the preliminary flight paths, with a further meeting to be held during the draft EIS public exhibition period, in the second half of the year.</p> <p>No other business items were raised by FoWSA members.</p>	
9.	Questions and answers	<p>Members of the public had the opportunity to submit questions to FoWSA members prior to the meeting. 55 questions <i>[note from FoWSA Secretariat post-meeting: 54 questions were received; one question that was previously counted was a duplicate]</i> were received from 16 people.</p> <p>The Chair provided a summary of the questions received, grouped into the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental impact assessment processes • Community engagement and consultation 	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flight paths • Aircraft noise • Noise mitigation • Environment and biodiversity • Airport and aircraft operations. <p>Summary answers were provided by the Chair and representatives of the Department including Mr Richard Wood, Mr Danny Namgyal and Ms Lulu Ou.</p> <p>Full answers to all questions will be made available on the Department’s website at www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au/community-partners/forum.</p>	
	Meeting close	<p>At the conclusion of the meeting, Ms Susan Templeman MP thanked the members of the public who attended the meeting for their participation and patience, and encouraged feedback from audience members on how the format of future open FoWSA meetings could be improved.</p> <p>The meeting was closed by the Chair at 4.30pm.</p>	

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Status of Outstanding 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	Ongoing

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 17, 14 October 2022

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
3	Department to provide FoWSA a presentation on the Aviation White Paper.	Closed
4	Department to provide members with information on the functional requirements for airspace and flight path design.	Closed
6	WSA Co to provide the Member representing the residents of Luddenham with additional information regarding the storage cell for contaminants at the Airport.	Closed

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Meeting 18, 2 December 2022

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
1	Department to advise the Member for Macquarie of the First Nations Consultation.	Closed
2	WSP will advise Member for Macquarie if the SEIA assessment on childcare and health services within 15km of WSI includes any of these services that are provided from the blue mountains.	Closed
3	The Department will advise members what area the draft EIS is defining the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area as.	Closed
4	The Department to distribute a community newsletter with the minutes.	Closed
5	WSA to share video with FoWSA members.	Closed
6	WSA to forward newsletters to the FoWSA secretariat, who will forward this to members.	Closed. The action will be undertaken as newsletters are forwarded to the FoWSA secretariat, who will forward to members.

Meeting 19, 18 March 2023

Action Item No	Action Item	Status
1	The Department to provide FoWSA members with a briefing on ambient noise testing results when details are available.	Open
2	The Department to provide FoWSA members with a briefing on the biodiversity offset and rehabilitation activities at the Orchard Hills defence establishment site.	Open
3	The Department to distribute Mr Shepherd's flight path design presentation to members, with the meeting minutes.	Closed.
4	The Department to provide an update on the planned schedule of community engagement events to members at the next meeting.	Open
5	The Department to consider extending the planned one-day community information stall at the 2023 Hawkesbury Show.	Closed. The Department will extend its community

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		information stall at the 2023 Hawkesbury Show to cover 28 April 2023 and 29 April 2023.
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Appendix B

Attendees

Ms Lee de Winton, Chair
Mr John Ajaka, Liverpool City Council
Mr David Borger – Business Western Sydney
Ms Joanne Bromilow – Resident of Blaxland
Ms Tracy Burgess – Blue Mountains City Council
Mr Gregory Copeland – Resident of Camden
Ms Anna Guillan – Regional Development Australia
Mr Jacob Idiculas – Resident of Bossley Park
Mr Daniel Jarosch – CEO Sydney Metro Airports
Mr Scott MacKillop – Western Sydney Airport
Ms Donna Marshall – Airservices Australia
Ms Melissa McIntosh MP – Member for Lindsay
Mr Scott Mitchell – Virgin Australia
Ms Susan Templeman MP – Member for Macquarie
Ms Britt Walters – Qantas
Mr Richard Wood – First Assistant Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Mr Danny Namgyal – Director, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Ms Lulu Ou – Director, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Mr Daniel Knott – Assistant Director, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Ms Deborah Fearn – Assistant Director, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Ms Neermala Cash – Assistant Director, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts
Mr Ty Sheers – Team Member, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications & the Arts

Guest Presenters

Ms Deborah Palmer – WSP Australia
Mr Matt Shepard – To70

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Apologies

Mr Steve Campbell – Regional Aviation Association of Australia)

Ms Inga Davis – Western Parkland City Authority

Ms Lindy Deitz – Campbelltown City Council

Ms Rosemary Dillon – Blue Mountains City Council

Mr Eddie Dogramaci – Hawkesbury City Council)

Dr Mike Freelander MP – Member for Macarthur

Cr Matt Gould – Mayor, Wollondilly Shire Council)

Mr Gordon Henwood – Resident of Mulgoa

Cr Tricia Hitchen – Mayor, Penrith City Council)

Senator the Hon Marise Payne

Ms Anne Stanley MP – Member for Werriwa

The Hon Angus Taylor MP – Member for Hume

Mr David Trevelyan - Basair

Mr John Walton – Resident of Silverdale

Mr Wayne Willmington – Resident of Luddenham