

Forum on Western Sydney Airport

Update from the 22nd meeting held on 23 November 2023

Chair's message

The Forum on Western Sydney Airport (FoWSA) held its fourth meeting for the year on 23 November 2023. The meeting gave members the opportunity to hear about the community engagement that has occurred since the release of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the preliminary flight paths for Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport (WSI). Submissions can be made on the draft EIS until 31 January 2024.

At the meeting the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the department) provided FoWSA with an overview of the draft EIS, including the draft Noise Insulation and Property Acquisition policy and key EIS assessment topics, as well as an update on submissions received to date. Members also learnt about the activities that Airservices Australia is pursuing, including a mailbox drop and additional community sessions, to support the department's consultation on the draft EIS.

WSP Australia, which is assisting the department's environmental assessment of the preliminary flight paths, outlined the engagement and awareness raising activities and statistics to support the release of the draft EIS and preliminary flight paths. Members were also briefed how learnings from engagement to date and market research has informed engagement activities to better target communities and spread awareness.

The department also flagged a new feature being added to the Aircraft Overflight Noise Tool: a downloadable report that will show the WSI flight paths and noise forecasts for an address. The report is now available on the Noise Tool when you search for an address.

The department listened to members' concerns at the meeting and in response a new fact sheet has been created, explaining the difference in scope between the Australian Noise Exposure Concept contour used in the NSW State Environment Planning Policy (Western Sydney Aerotropolis), and that proposed for the draft Noise Insulation and Property Acquisition policy in the draft EIS. The fact sheet is available at www.wsiflightpaths.gov.au/resources.

Western Sydney Parkland Authority informed members of a new website Western Sydney Airport Precinct (<https://caportal.com.au/tfnsw/western-sydney-airport-precinct>) that is intended to be a living, evolving platform, and will allow the community to stay up to date with progress, announcements and project and community notifications. It also includes Transport's Connecting the Western Sydney Airport Precinct: a 30-year strategic vision for city-shaping, integrated transport.

I would like to congratulate the team on the engagement undertaken for the release of the preliminary flight paths and draft EIS. It has been a busy year. I wish everyone a happy and safe New Year.

Lee de Winton
Independent Chair, Forum on Western Sydney Airport

Update from the airport operator WSA Co Limited (WSA)

WSA provided members with an update on its community engagement since the last FoWSA meeting, including:

- Dedicated First Nations engagement
- 7 Career expos
- 3 CSIRO STEM workshops
- 7 school visits
- National Youth Poetry Slam
- Western Sydney Woman's Awards.



Total visitors to the Experience Centre to date has also crossed 60,000 people.

Update from the Air Navigation Service Provider (Airservices Australia)

Airservices Australia is supporting the department in community consultation on the draft EIS with a letterbox mailout to 1.5 million addresses via Australia Post, covering the majority of Greater Sydney.

Airservices Australia also held a mix of community drop in sessions and community stalls in November and early December 2023 to raise awareness for communities who may notice airspace changes.

Have your say and make a submission to the draft EIS

Have your say and make a formal submission during the public exhibition of the draft EIS:

- Online wsiflightpaths.gov.au
- Email eis.submissions@infrastructure.gov.au
- Post Attn: WSI Flight Paths Team, GPO Box 594, Canberra ACT 2601

Visit wsiflightpaths.gov.au to:

- access the Aircraft Overflight Noise Tool to view the preliminary flight paths in more detail
- find out more about the project, download brochures and FAQs
- read and download the draft EIS

If you have any questions, please call the Flight Paths Community Engagement Team on **1800 038 160** or at wsiflightpaths@infrastructure.gov.au



Upcoming FoWSA meetings in 2024 – indicative program

March 2024

July 2024

October 2024