

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM



Senator Marise Payne
Senator for New South Wales
Chair, Sydney Airport Community Forum

Cr Vince Badalati
Mayor of Hurstville

The Hon Bruce Baird MP
Federal Member for Cook

Cr Phil Blight
Mayor of Sutherland Shire

Cr Mark Bonanno
Mayor of Ashfield

The Hon Kerry Chikarovski MLA
State Member for Lane Cove

Mr John Clarke
Upper North Shore Community

Mr Kevin Hill
Kurnell Community

Cr Steve Holroyd
Rockdale Council

The Hon Joe Hockey MP
Federal Member for North Sydney

Cr Sue Hoopmann
Benelong Community

Mr Trevor Jensen
Australian Air Transport Association

Mr Robert McClelland MP
Federal Member for Barton

Cr John May
Mayor of Lane Cove

Mr Michael Megna
Inner West Community

Mr John Murphy MP
Federal Member for Lowe

The Hon Sandra Nori MLA
State Member for Port Jackson

Ms Maria Patrinos
CRAAN

Cr Fiona Sinclair King
Wentworth Community

Ms Lisa Smith
Sydney Airport

Secretariat:
PO Box A301
Sydney South NSW 1235

[Freecall NSW]
Tel: 1800 812 069
Fax: 02 6274-6717
Email: sacf@dotars.gov.au
www.sacf.dotars.gov.au

14 March 2003

The Hon John Anderson MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Transport and Regional Services
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I am writing to convey the main outcomes of the thirty-fourth meeting of the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) held on Friday 29 November 2002. I apologise for the delay in providing this advice.

Under the *Airports Act 1996*, the Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd (SACL) is required to lodge a draft master plan (DMP) with you for approval by 31 December 2003. The SACL Member on the Forum gave a comprehensive presentation to the meeting on the development of the DMP. Members are particularly interested in the Master Plan and have deferred any detailed discussion on this matter until the next meeting on 31 March 2003.

The Members were advised of the current status of the Review of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) and were asked to consult with their local communities to suggest a suitable consultant to undertake this review. I took the opportunity to remind them that implementation of the Review was still dependent on the Prime Minister's consent and that you were still seeking that consent.

Members raised a number of community concerns regarding the loss of Airservices' freecall number to lodge complaints against aircraft noise. The main issue in question is that a number of callers abuse this free call number by persistently calling the number which prevents other callers from getting through.

Airservices offered to reinstate the number and monitor the line for excessive usage by callers. In addition, Members were informed that complaints can be lodged on the internet and requested that Airservices should publicise this option as a viable alternative to the phone number.

Members were receptive to the presentation by Qantas on the introduction of the Airbus A330 aircraft onto its Sydney/Melbourne services. Members noted that despite being larger than the B767 aircraft currently in use on those services its noise impact is overall less than the B767 but Airservices will continue to monitor this.

Finally, the SACF Member representing the Canterbury Residents Against Aircraft Noise put the motion below concerning Bankstown Airport being sold as an overflow airport for Sydney Airport. The meeting supported the motion. The primary reason given was that the community had some serious concerns that any increased usage of Bankstown Airport would increase noise over the residential areas and compromise the principles underlying noise sharing.

SACF calls on the Minister for Transport and Regional Services to confirm that the Government does not intend to sell Bankstown airport for use as an overflow airport for Kingsford Smith Airport (KSA). SACF does not endorse any proposal to divert jet and turbo propeller aircraft from KSA nor any use of Bankstown to substantially increase the number of aircraft movements over the Sydney metropolitan area.

The Department informed the meeting that the sale of Bankstown was underway and that the Government had stated its position on this matter.

I look forward to your response to the issues raised by the Forum. The Forum next meets on Monday 31 March 2003.

Yours sincerely

Signed by Senator Payne 14 March 2003
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Senator Marise Payne
Chair