



The Hon John Anderson MP
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Transport and Regional Services
Leader National Party of Australia

Senator Marise Payne
Senator for New South Wales
Chair, Sydney Airport Community Forum
PO Box A301
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

Dear Senator Payne

Thank you for your letter of 14 March 2003 concerning the outcomes from the thirty-fourth SACF meeting.

I am pleased that the Forum received a thorough presentation on Sydney Airport's Master Plan at its last meeting. Given the significance of this exercise, it was prudent of members to set aside time at its next meeting for the detailed discussion it warrants.

In relation to the Review of the Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney Airport, as you would be aware, I have recently written to you indicating that the Prime Minister has given his assent to it and that I have agreed to your suggested Terms of Reference. I understand that you and the SACF sub committee formed to oversight the Review will now liaise with the Department over the remaining issues such as the selection of the consultant by tender and funding.

You raised the community concerns regarding the loss of the freecall number provided by Airservices to lodge noise complaints. The decision to discontinue the freecall service is a matter for the management of Airservices. As you indicated they have offered to monitor the complaints line for abuses. I understand that the abuse of the service frustrated Airservices' ability to provide a good service to genuine complainants. I encourage the use of the Internet as a viable means of lodging complaints as it makes the best use of the electronic technology which is consistent with the Government's aim of using this medium more fully.

I was also pleased that the members were receptive to Qantas' presentation on the A330 and that they considered that the aircraft's introduction would have little impact on Sydney Airport's noise contours. I note that Airservices will continue to monitor this.

I have noted the motion put forward concerning Bankstown Airport by the member representing the Canterbury Residents Against Aircraft Noise.

Yours sincerely

Signed by Minister Anderson 4 April 2003

JOHN ANDERSON

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