



**Sydney Airport
Community Forum**

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM

SUMMARY RECORD

Meeting 1/2011

Friday, 11 March 2011

Conference Room A

8th Floor, 70 Phillip Street

SYDNEY NSW 2000

Web: www.sacf.infrastructure.gov.au

Email: SACF@infrastructure.gov.au

Telephone: 1800 812 069

AGENDA ITEM 1 Opening Remarks and Adoption of Agenda

The Chair noted his appointment by the Minister following the resignation of Mr Barry Cotter.

Mr Clarke requested that Action Item 02/01 – *Department to report back on issues raised by Mr Frere* - be included on the Agenda. Mr Stone from the Department of Infrastructure and Transport advised that the Department had written to Mr Frere on the issues he raised. It was agreed that the Secretariat would circulate this letter to SACF Members.

Action Item 01/01 Department to circulate its response to Mr Frere to SACF Members

It was noted that the list of aviation acronyms circulated at the last meeting was not received by all members.

Action Item 02/01 Secretariat to email the list of acronyms to all Members.

AGENDA ITEM 2 Confirmation of Draft Summary Record of Meeting 3/2010 (19 November 2010)

There was discussion about the Draft Summary Record in relation to the intended outcome of discussions on the classification of flight paths.

Action Item 03/01 Airservices agreed to prepare a report for the next meeting that examines the issues associated with classifying flight paths in relation to the frequency and concentration of aircraft movements.

There was discussion about the circulation and confirmation of the Draft Summary Record of meetings in relation to the need for relevant parties to initiate actions, and a process was put forward to allow uncontested actions to be initiated in a timely manner.

Action Item 04/01 The Secretariat agreed to circulate a Draft Summary Record as close as possible to 14 days after the meeting. Members agreed to provide suggested amendments as close as possible to 14 days after that. The Secretariat will then circulate the Draft Summary record and suggested amendments.

AGENDA ITEM 3 Aircraft Noise Ombudsman – Mr Ron Brent

The Aircraft Noise Ombudsman (ANO), Mr Ron Brent addressed the Forum and explained how he saw his role in terms of responding to enquiries about complaint handling, examining the processes for information sharing on aircraft noise, and looking at consultation processes.

He noted that his first report into complaint handling by Airservices included 18 recommendations all of which have been accepted by Airservices. He noted that there is only a small minority of cases where it is possible to make changes that will solve the problem raised by a complainant, but stressed that it is important to provide the complainant with a detailed explanation of the reasons for aircraft noise.

He acknowledged the complexity of the issues associated with air traffic control, but expressed the hope that improvements could be made to the methods for sharing information on aircraft noise.

He expressed some caution about providing advice on consultation processes at this stage, given that consultation processes are currently being reviewed by Airservices.

Mr Brent emphasised his independence, noting that he is independent of Airservices Australia, the Minister and the Government, but that he is also independent of complainants. His independence is important in ensuring his effectiveness as an impartial investigator. He has his own separate office and staff, including a retired senior air traffic controller.

Mr Brent sees his role as promoting the better management of aircraft noise, and intends to measure his success against that objective, rather than simplistic performance indicators such as the number of complaints. He noted that attending noise forums like SACF was a key part of his role.

The Chair stated that the Ombudsman was always welcome at SACF and IMC, and noted that he would record in his response to the Minister that the appointment of a person of Mr Brent's stature and experience as the ANO was a great innovation which underlines the importance of the position.

AGENDA ITEM 4 Sydney Airport Corporation Limited Report

Mr Gilmour noted that the Sydney Airport Corporation Limited Report was circulated with the meeting papers.

He noted that the Runway resurfacing project had been held up by adverse weather but construction has caught up and the project is expected to be completed on time by mid-year.

A new hangar is being established for Virgin Airlines, subject to the normal planning and approval processes, with construction estimated to be completed by the end of 2012. The Airport is also extending the T2 Pier A area to provide capacity for additional aircraft. The central terrace building is nearing completion and will be occupied by the Australian Federal Police.

The Smart Gate operation to expedite the immigration process for Australian citizens was opened recently by the Minister for Home Affairs and Justice Mr Brendan O'Connor MP.

SACL has released a number of reports which call into question the methodology adopted by the ACCC Monitoring Report on Airports. The next stage is a Productivity Commission Inquiry into airports and SACL will be making a submission into that.

Mr Gilmour noted that while the station access fee has been removed from the Green Square and Mascot stations, it remains at the two airport stations. He asserted that the workers at Sydney airport are the only people in New South Wales who pay a surcharge to travel to work. There was discussion of the situation in relation to public transport at the airport.

Action Item 05/01 The Forum resolved to support the removal of any impost on public transport to the Airport.

There was discussion about the issue of transparency of information for purchasers buying residential property affected by aircraft noise, in relation to the Kurnell Peninsula development.

The Chair advised that councils are required to ensure that property being sold has a current Section 149 certificate, and Councils are obliged to include aircraft noise on the 149 certificate. It was acknowledged that the amount of information included on the 149 certificate is limited.

Mr Stone advised that the Department expressed detailed concerns about the Kurnell Peninsula development on its website:
http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/aviation/environmental/files/COPY_SYD_Kurnell_Dec09.pdf.

AGENDA ITEM 5 Operational Issues

AGENDA ITEM 5.1 Response to questions asked by Mr Morrison MP and SEANAG about aircraft movements over Cook and Reid

Mr Woods tabled two papers, the questions raised by SEANAG with Airservices and the response provided by Airservices. It was noted that Mr Morrison MP had a meeting with the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, and Airservices to discuss the issues raised.

It was noted that Airservices had provided a response broadly addressing the topics raised by SEANAG. SEANAG advised that Airservices' response did not adequately answer its specific questions and that it had referred the matter to the ANO. Airservices indicated that it is preparing a detailed response to the specific questions provided by SEANAG. It was agreed that Airservices response be circulated to Members for discussion at the next meeting.

Action Item 06/01 Airservices agreed to report back to SACF on the questions raised by SEANAG

There was discussion about the role of technology in allowing aircraft to navigate more accurately which has resulted in the narrowing of the tracks used by aircraft, as aircraft moved from radar vectoring to RNAV. Airservices advised that the latter is a hands-off procedure for the pilot and is safer. There was discussion of the possibility of introducing multiple paths to alleviate the concentration experienced by residents living under the concentrated RNAV flight paths.

AGENDA ITEM 5.2 Implementation Monitoring Committee (IMC) Report

Mr Hill advised the Forum that there was a meeting of IMC on 15 February 2011. Issues discussed included the 34 Left STARS, Kurnell overflights, the ILS replacement program, and the role of IMC. There was discussion about the issue of aircraft maintaining runway heading when departing from the airport using Runway 34L.

Airservices advised that the Runway 34L standard instrument departure routes (SIDs) were able to be achieved by all aircraft unless there was an engine out situation, and that the decision to allow aircraft to maintain runway heading was made on the request of the pilot. Mr Hill indicated that he and Mr Clarke are preparing a paper outlining the achievements of IMC for distribution to Members.

Action Item 07/01 Mr Hill and Mr Clarke to provide a report on the achievements of IMC for circulation to SACF Members.

AGENDA ITEM 5.3 IMC Role

Mr Stone noted that at the last meeting of SACF a working group was asked to discuss the role of IMC and report back to SACF. A summary of those discussions was included in the meeting papers.

A question was raised about whether the Ministerial Direction to set up IMC is a disallowable instrument.

Action Item 08/01 Department to advise SACF members about whether the Ministerial Direction to establish IMC is a disallowable instrument.

The Chair noted that the role, performance and the terms of reference of IMC had not been reviewed since its inception in 1997, and proposed that a working group be set up to review the IMC, and report back to SACF.

Action Item 09/01 A working group comprising the Department, the Community Representatives Mr Hill and Mr Clarke, Mr Fitzgerald and Airservices Australia, to review the role of IMC and report back to SACF.

AGENDA ITEM 5.4 Use of Modes 9 and 10

Mr Rodwell spoke to the report provided by Airservices Australia on the use of Modes 9 and 10. There was brief discussion about how wind conditions determine the runway modes used at the airport.

AGENDA ITEM 5.5 Airservices Communications and Consultation Protocol

Mr Rodwell noted that a draft Communications and Consultation Protocol was being developed. He indicated that Airservices had invited comments on this document at the last two SACF meetings and that no comments had been received to date.

Mr Clarke put the view that the protocol should be reviewed in the context of best practice community engagement.

AGENDA ITEM 5.6 Update on the Slot System

Mr Stone reported that following a number of breaches of the movement cap reported at the last meeting, the Minister asked the Department to chair a committee to consider ways to minimise the risk of breaches occurring in the future. Some short term measures have been put in place, such as Airservices not reallocating slots once 76 movements have been allocated in an hour. The committee is expected to report to the Minister this month, and it is expected that the Minister will consider the options and inform SACF on his decisions.

AGENDA ITEM 5.7 PBN Position Paper

Mr Clarke referred to the brief paper on Performance Based Navigation (PBN) included in the agenda papers, which he claimed was a significant change in terms of aircraft noise.

Mr Clarke put the view that related procedures such as Required Navigation Performance (RNP) not be introduced in Sydney unless it furthers noise sharing and reduces concentration over residential areas. He indicated that any change should be part of a transparent process that involves a high level of community engagement.

Airservices indicated that it had a view on some points in the paper and would respond to Mr Clarke and Mr Hill.

Action Item 10/01 *Airservices agreed to discuss the PBN paper with Mr Clarke and Mr Hill to resolve any issues, and it was agreed to include the matter on the agenda for consideration at the next SACF meeting.*

AGENDA ITEM 5.8 Senate Inquiry into the Effectiveness of Management of Aircraft Noise by Airservices Australia – Recommendations and Government Response

Mr Stone reported that the background to this inquiry was the implementation of a review of flight paths in Perth recommended by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to maintain separation and manage potential conflict from traffic associated with Pearce Airforce Base and Perth commercial airspace. The Senate Committee held hearings in Perth, Melbourne Canberra and Sydney. SACF was represented at the Sydney hearings. The Committee tabled its report in July 2010 and the Government tabled its response in February 2011.

Community Representative Ms Patrinos sought some clarification about the process that SACF would need to follow to request technical assistance.

Action Item 11/01 *The Department agreed to report to the next meeting on the process for SACF to request technical assistance.*

AGENDA ITEM 6.1 ANARCS Report

Mr Hill undertook to provide a new version of the paper spelling out the ANARCS proposal in the near future.

Action Item 12/01 *Mr Hill to provide a new version of the paper outlining the ANARCS proposal*

AGENDA ITEM 6.2 “Significant Impact on the Local or Regional Community” Guide

Mr Stone noted that the guide had been published on the Department’s website and circulated to Members. This resulted from some changes to the Airports Act which included some new triggers for airports to develop Major Development Plans, including ‘*any development which has a significant on the local or regional community*’. The guide provides some advice on what might constitute such a development, including noise and traffic impacts.

AGENDA ITEM 7.1 Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) – Implementation Progress

Mr Bob Hayes noted that Action Item 07/01 from Meeting 2/2010, relating to a letter to Airservices in 2006 continues to be outstanding and requested that it be acted on by the next meeting.

Action Item 13/01 It was agreed that Airservices' response to the issues raised in Mr Hayes letter will be sought in the context of the review of the role of IMC.

There was brief discussion on the joint Australian/NSW Government study into Sydney's future airport needs.

Action Item 14/01 A report on the progress of the Joint study into the second Sydney airport will be provided at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 8.1 Joint Study into New Technology

Mr Stone advised that events had changed with this item, which related to the roll out of RNP around Australia. Airservices is now preparing some information about the roll out of RNP. The Minister is clear that RNP will only be implemented in Sydney where it can add to LTOP and advance noise sharing.

It was agreed to delete this item as a standing item on the agenda.

AGENDA ITEM 9.1 Curfew Dispensation Report

The Curfew Dispensation Report was noted.

AGENDA ITEM 9.2 SACF Correspondence

The Department agreed to discuss arrangements with Mr Hill on appropriate ways to respond to correspondence, and refer the correspondence from a Gymea Bay resident (Attachment 9.2.5) to Mr Hill.

Action Item 15/01 The Department to contact the Gymea Bay resident and offer to refer the correspondence to Mr Hill for consideration.

AGENDA ITEM 9.3 SACF Phone line

The Telephone Register was noted.

AGENDA ITEM 10 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next SACF meeting on 20 May 2011.



ATTENDANCE

Members

P.	Fitzgerald	Chair
K.	Hill	Community Representative for the South
M.	Patrinis	Community Representative for the West
T.	Fasanella	Representing the Member for Reid
K.	Pasterfield	Representing the Member for Kingsford-Smith
E.	Barnett	Representing the Member for Barton
B.	Hayes	Representing the Member for North Sydney
R.	Sheerin	Representing the Member for Bennelong
J.	Clarke	Representing the Member for Bradfield
J.	Farrer	Representing the Member for Wentworth
J.	Woods	Representing the Member for Cook
J.	Bancroft	Representing the Member for Heffron
T.	Nardone	Representing the Member for Sydney
T.	Clapper	Representing the member for Rockdale
M.	O'Sullivan	Representing the Member for Marrickville
T.	Cassidy	Mayor of Ashfield
F.	Byrne	Mayor of Marrickville
P.	Blight	Mayor of Sutherland Shire
J.	Patterson	Representing the Mayor of the City of Botany Bay
R.	Gilmour	Representing the Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd
R.	Edney	Member for the Australian Airline Industry
W.	Bennett	Board of Airline Representatives of Australia

Department of Infrastructure

S.	Stone	General Manager, Aviation Environment Branch
D.	Southgate	Head, Aviation Environment Policy Section
J.	Collis	Aviation Environment Policy Section, Secretariat

Airservices Australia

M.	Rodwell	Manager, East Coast Air Traffic Control, Airservices Australia
M.	Bennetts	General Manager, Environment, Airservices Australia
P.	Carroll	Airservices Australia

Aircraft Noise Ombudsman

R.	Brent	Aircraft Noise Ombudsman
----	-------	--------------------------



Sydney Airport Community Forum

Observers

J.	Carden	Brisbane Airport
T.	Plummer	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.
J.	Chan	Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd.
T.	Williams	Community Member
J.	Saulwick	Sydney Morning Herald
H.	Knox	Overnight Airfreight Operators Association
C.	Connolly	Minister's Electorate Office
M.	Watts	Minister's Office
I.	Koernicke	Sutherland Shire Council

Apologies

G.	Ritchie	Representing the Mayor of Canterbury Council
P.	Norman	Nominee for the Member for Heffron