

SYDNEY AIRPORT COMMUNITY FORUM (SACF)**Meeting 01/2020, 21 February 2020****AGENDA ITEM 1 Opening Remarks and Adoption of Agenda**

The Chair welcomed members and guests and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

The Chair welcomed new representatives from Airservices Australia (Glenn Cox and Fiona Lawton), the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (Joseph Solomon and Sarah Tink) and Sydney Airport Corporation Limited (Karen Halbert).

The Chair reminded everyone the meetings are recorded and the recording is deleted after the draft Summary Record has been accepted.

AGENDA ITEM 2 Confirmation of Draft Summary Record of Meeting 02/2019

The draft Summary Record was circulated on 13 December 2019.

2.1 *Incorporation of suggested changes*

The SACF Secretariat did not receive any requests for changes to the draft Summary Record of Meeting 02/2019 prior to Meeting 01/2020.

Bob Hayes, SACF Community Representative for the North, requested the Department amend page 5 of the draft Summary Record to include a clause specifying that Russell McArthur and Gary Scott accepted Mr Hayes' statement, which was included as an attachment to the draft Summary Record.

Action Item 01/01 – Mr Solomon committed to reviewing the recording of Meeting 02/2019 and advising the Chair of any necessary changes as per Mr Hayes' request.

2.2 *Action items arising from previous meetings*

All actions from the previous meeting had been completed before the meeting, except for Action Items 01/02 and 02/02. The outstanding Action Items will be completed through the provision of out-of-session updates to SACF members before the next meeting.

Mr Hayes noted the Chair's letter to the Chair of the Expert Steering Group for the Western Sydney Airport (ESG) (Action Item 05/02) did not make reference to his presentation to SACF Meeting 01/2019. Mr Hayes was dissatisfied with the Chair of the ESG's response, as it did not address the question of whether any potential impacts on LTOP from the Western Sydney Airport flightpath design process would require SACF's approval.

Mr Hayes sought the Chair write to the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications seeking to have the Secretary review the Chair of the ESG's response and to request SACF be given ex-officio membership of the ESG.

Given the nature of this issue, which relates to the legal status of the Ministerial Direction to Implement LTOP (1997) in relation to the Western Sydney Airport Plan, the Chair requested the Department liaise with Mr Hayes out-of-session and to inform him of the proposed approach to addressing Mr Hayes' concerns.

Action Item 02/01 – The Department to seek advice and clarify with Mr Hayes the relationship and protections between the LTOP and the Western Sydney Airport Plan.

AGENDA ITEM 3 Community Question Time – Members of the Community

Since the last meeting of SACF on 21 October 2019, the SACF Secretariat did not receive any questions from the community.

AGENDA ITEM 4 Sydney Airport Update

Mr Plummer provided an overview of recent activities pertinent to Sydney Airport. Highlights included:

- The runway resurfacing project, the first phase of which commenced on 19 February 2020 and will continue for approximately eight-ten weeks, subject to weather;
- The proposed Terminal 1 – Pier A extension, which will be subject to a Major Development Plan (MDP) later in the year;
- An update on the Sydney Gateway Project;
- Construction of new aircraft layover bays and taxiways in the airport's South East Sector, expected to be completed in 2022;
- A proposal to upgrade the South West Sector to allow for passengers to be bussed to and from the T1 (International) terminal.
- The proposed minor variation of the approved T2/T3 Ground Transport Solutions and Hotel MDP;
- The ongoing Northern Ponds apron works to expand and convert existing layover bays to Code E active fuelled bays;
- Sydney Airport's deliberative engagement community panel; and
- The upcoming public exhibition of changes to building heights in the Sydney CBD.

SACF members discussed the impact of the runway resurfacing project. This project, which occurs during the curfew, requires incoming movements to use the third runway while works are ongoing. This significantly alters the aircraft noise profile for roughly 8,000 residences, primarily Kurnell, La Perouse, Phillip Bay and parts of Botany. Mr Plummer noted a similar period of works will also be required in 2021.

AGENDA ITEM 5 Airservices Australia Report

Ruth Jost and Fiona Lawton provided an update from Airservices Australia. Key topics included:

- An update on the progress of essential works on the noise monitors at Penshurst (temporary monitor installed and visible on WebTrak) and Sydenham (scheduling of works to be confirmed – the monitor will operate normally until works commence)'
- A review of 2019's noise complaints:



- Airservices Australia received complaints from 620 complainants in 2019, continuing a year-on-year decline in the number of complainants from 2016.
- Following the trend established in previous years, more community members complained about aircraft noise in the first quarter of the year, followed by quarters two and four.
- Throughout 2019, Airservices Australia received complaints about aircraft noise at Sydney Airport on nine discrete issues. The top three issues were standard flight path movements (491 complainants), curfew movements (55 complainants) and unusual movements (47 complainants).
- The suburb with the most complainants was Maroubra (26), followed by Blaxland (19), Mascot (14) and Leichardt and Drummoyne (13 each).
- An overview was provided of Airservices Australia's draft Flight Path Design Principles. The first round of national consultation on these draft Principles closed on 9 February 2020, and Airservices is aiming to finalise the principles in mid-2020.

Members of SACF raised concerns regarding Airservices Australia's consultation on the draft Flight Path Design Principles, especially as neither SACF nor the Australian Mayoral Aviation Council (AMAC) were notified of the consultation process. Members of SACF also expressed concern that these draft Principles appeared to be used as a grounds to review the Long-Term Implementation Plan (LTOP) governing Sydney Airport's flight paths.

Ms Lawton noted that the draft Flight Path Design Principles are only intended for use in new flight path designs, not as a criteria against which to measure LTOP or other existing flight paths. Ms Lawton noted SACF members' comments that a written acknowledgement of this would be beneficial in the next version of the draft Principles. Ms Lawton committed to ensure both SACF and AMAC were consulted in the next phase of public consultation on this document.

Questions were also raised about how the draft Flight Path Design Principles would interact with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and other aspects of the ongoing design of Western Sydney Airport's associated flight paths – would the two processes run concurrently, or in parallel? Ms Lawton advised SACF that there was no timetable for the finalisation of the draft Flight Path Design Principles, and so their development and approval would run in parallel with the Western Sydney Airport flight path design process.

The Hon Matt Thistlethwaite MP asked the Airservices Australia representatives to investigate the possibility of noise-sharing to avoid a concentration of flights over Maroubra. The SACF Secretariat has received correspondence on this matter, which was referred to Airservices Australia. Ms Jost and Rob Edney noted that Maroubra lies underneath the flight paths from Sydney Airport to Melbourne, Brisbane and the Gold Coast – all of which use aircraft of similar performance characteristics, and therefore reach turning altitude more consistently than the aircraft headed to the west. Glenn Cox committed to looking into the matter, although it was noted that any change of flight path would need to be assessed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Action Item 03/01 – Airservices Australia to investigate the possibility of noise-sharing procedures to avoid the current concentration of flights over Maroubra. Airservices Australia to report back on this topic out-of-session, before the next SACF meeting.



AGENDA ITEM 6 National Acoustic Laboratories (NAL) Review Study Update

The Department advised SACF the US Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) report on this topic has not yet been released. Kevin Hill, SACF Community Representative for the South, suggested if the FAA will not release its report, SACF should pursue its own research on this topic. The Department was asked to investigate the possibility of obtaining a copy of the report from the FAA, and the topic of pursuing research was deferred until the result of the Department's investigations were known.

Action Item 04/01 – Department to attempt to obtain a copy of the unreleased FAA longitudinal study into aircraft noise impacts.

Since the meeting was held, the Department has been advised the report's release is expected in October 2020.

AGENDA ITEM 7 Implementation and Monitoring Committee (IMC) Report

The Chair advised the IMC had met twice since the previous SACF meeting (Meeting 02/2019), on 19 November 2019 and 18 February 2020.

Mr Hill briefly covered the topics discussed in both meetings, including the new IMC Chair (Glenn Cox), Western Sydney Airport, the Williamstown traffic management study, required navigation performance and air traffic affected by the recent bushfires. The next IMC meeting will be held on 21 April 2020 and will focus on a gap analysis of LTOP.

AGENDA ITEM 8 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications Report

Mr Solomon advised the National Airports Safeguarding Advisory Group (NASAG) last met on 21 August 2019 and agreed the terms of reference for an implementation review of the National Airports Safeguarding Framework (NASF). The submission process for the implementation review closed on 22 November 2019. It is anticipated a draft report will be presented to NASAG members ahead of the 31 March NASAG meeting. Mr Solomon reiterated that it is the responsibility of each state and territory to implement the NASF in the context of their respective planning systems. General enquiries regarding the NASF may be directed to safeguarding@infrastructure.gov.au.

Ms Tink briefed SACF on the progress of the Department's regulation sunseting process for the Airports Regulations 1997, Sydney Airport Demand Management Regulations 1998 and all associated legislative instruments. The Department aims to inform stakeholders of an indicative timeline for future consultation later this year.

Ms Tink also briefed SACF on the Productivity Commission Inquiry Report into the Economic Regulation of Airports, and the Government's response to the Inquiry Report. Five of the Productivity Commission's recommendations relate directly to Sydney Airport, and Ms Tink discussed the Government's response to each of these recommendations, noting that a timeframe for consultation has yet to be developed.

The curfew dispensation reports for the July to September and October to December periods were discussed. Ms Tink explained that the higher than average number of

dispensations granted across these periods were primarily due to the severity and unpredictability of storms and other adverse weather conditions.

Mr Osborne reported on the SACF correspondence received since the previous meeting, with a focus on two items of correspondence:

- An email from a member of the public, complaining about the number and concentration of aircraft movements over Maroubra.
- An anonymous call claiming LTOP procedures were not being actively pursued by Sydney Airport's air traffic control (ATC) tower following the cessation of SODPROPS (simultaneous opposite direction parallel runway operations).

Airservices Australia was given the opportunity to comment on both pieces of correspondence. Ms Jost noted that the issue of flight paths over Maroubra had been discussed earlier in the meeting, and Mr Cox advised that Airservices Australia has not stopped the use of SODPROPS or other LTOP modes. It was clarified that SODPROPS requires very light winds and no smoke, which has made its use impractical of late due to recent bushfires and periods of smoke haze. Mr Cox reiterated that Airservices Australia always implements LTOP in ATC operations at Sydney Airport when conditions allow.

Mr Thistlethwaite MP asked whether the correspondent from Maroubra had been referred to Airservices Australia regarding his complaint. Mr Osborne advised that the correspondence to SACF indicated the correspondent was already in communication with Airservices Australia, and confirmed the correspondence had been forwarded to Airservices Australia.

Mr Plummer noted that a piece of correspondence relating to squeaky chairs at the airport had been resolved.

AGENDA ITEM 9 Other Business

Mr Thistlethwaite MP raised the issues of poor public transport links to and from Sydney Airport and the deleterious impacts on local residents from unauthorised parking on residential streets. Mr Thistlethwaite MP requested a standing update from the NSW Government about plans to improve access.

Action Item 05/01 – Transport for NSW to be asked, as a standing Agenda Item, to provide updates on the NSW Government's work to improve public transport access and accessibility to Sydney Airport.

SACF members discussed the high cost, low capacity and unsuitability for luggage of the passenger trains servicing the airport, as well as the availability of buses and other public transport links.

Mr Plummer noted that non-compete clauses in place limit the provision of services which would compete with the rail link. He also noted the NSW Government has committed to provide more bus services upon completion of the ground transport interchange at Sydney Airport.

AGENDA ITEM 10 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday 12 June 2020.

ATTENDANCE

Members

J.	Alexander	Chair
J.	Ward	Assistant to the Chair
M.	Thistlethwaite	Member for Kingsford-Smith
B.	Leeson	Representing the Member for Kingsford-Smith
M.	Rohan	Representing the Member for North Sydney
J.	Stewart	Representing the Member for Bradfield
C.	Kekovich	Representing the Member for Cook
J.	Patterson	Representing the Member for Heffron
Z.	Solomon	Representing the Member for Summer Hill
K.	Hill	Community Representative for the South
M.	Patrinios	Community Representative for the West
B.	Hayes	Community Representative for the North
K.	Welsh	Representing the Inner West Council
C.	Harley	Representing the Bayside Council
R.	Edney	Virgin Australia
T.	Plummer	Representing Sydney Airport Corporation Limited
B.	Abrams	Board of Airline Representatives of Australia

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

J.	Solomon	Director, South West, ACT and NSW Airports Section
S.	Tink	Assistant Director, South West, ACT and NSW Airports Section
A.	Osborne	SACF Secretariat, South West, ACT and NSW Airports Section

Airservices Australia

R.	Jost	Noise Complaints and Information Service Manager
G.	Cox	A/g Director Operations Terminal Services (Sydney)
F.	Lawton	Community Engagement Manager

Observers and Presenters

K.	Halbert	Sydney Airport Corporation Limited
K.	Allcot	Sydney Airport Corporation Limited
M.	Dudley	Sydney Airport Corporation Limited
P.	Thorne	Observer
T.	Williams	Observer