

## The Hon Anthony Albanese MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Leader of the House

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The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP
Premier of NSW
Minister for Western Sydney
Level 40, Governor Macquarie Tower
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Dear Preparer

Our respective Governments have now received the Joint Study on Aviation Capacity for the Sydney Region. We now need to determine how we jointly progress an effective strategy for addressing the findings and recommendations of the Report.

The Study examines the aviation and associated transport needs of the Sydney region recognising that the capacity of the region's airports to meet forecast demand is one of the critical investment and planning challenges facing NSW and Australia. The findings of the Study show the importance of aviation and the economic costs for Sydney, NSW and the national economy if growing demand cannot be met.

The Australian government will now commence detailed consideration of the Committee's Report. However, as the Report highlights, these are critical issues for us to address together. An effective strategy will require ongoing commitment by the Commonwealth and State governments.

The Steering Committee highlighted the importance of our Governments continuing to work together on the issues involved and recommended the establishment of a joint body and agreed process for managing and monitoring implementation of a strategy. I consider that we should now take steps to start this joint work.

I propose that as the next step, the Secretary of my Department and the Director General of your Department work with Infrastructure Australia and Infrastructure NSW to provide us with advice on options for progressing a joint approach on the Sydney aviation planning and investment issues.

The Report raises critical investment issues for Sydney and Australia. I look forward to us progressing a joint approach to addressing these matters.

Yours sincerely

ANTHONY ALBANESE