

Freight and Supply Chain Inquiry
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

Dear Sir/Madam

PERTH AIRPORT SUBMISSION – NATIONAL FREIGHT AND SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY

In response to the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's request for submissions in relation to the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy, Perth Airport Pty Ltd wishes to highlight that freight passing through an airport is generally low volume, but high value products, many of which depend on the speed of transport between the producer and the market. To demonstrate the importance of this component of freight, Perth Airport figures indicate that in the last 12 months, the value of freight handled by the Airport is over \$25,000,000,000¹, with BITRE figures showing that the volume of International freight handled by the Airport growing from 40,919 tonnes to 97,562 tonnes in the 20 years from 1996 to 2016, with further growth targeted by the Airport in the coming years.

In addition to the specific larger freighter aircraft movements, there is significant additional freight capacity which transports goods via the cargo hold of regular passenger services. These services provide a significant connection for the Perth and south west of Western Australia to a myriad of diverse international destinations. This provides both a significant opportunity for the development of export oriented local and regional industries to access these markets, in addition to facilitating a direct connection point for relevant and essential imports.

On reviewing the material presented, Perth Airport wishes to express its concern and highlight the importance of aviation, as a critical element, of the national freight task. Perth Airport would encourage a specific additional round of engagement and analysis with key Australian Airports, to identify how the significant positive benefit that airports, and the aviation sector in general, can provide in supporting an effective national freight strategy. Importantly such an analysis would also seek to identify any potential roadblocks and constraints which may currently exist by way of regulation, policy, or tax which makes national and international aircraft freight movements either uncompetitive from a price perspective or unnecessarily complicated. Such a review could unleash a significant benefit for the national economy by leveraging the assets provided by the major national airports, such as Perth Airport.

Should you require any further information, do not hesitate to contact Ian Barker at Perth Airport on 9478 8460.



Tony Brun
CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER

¹ Source: Perth Airport estimate