

Submission to the independent aviation safety regulation review panel:

Name: James Arthur Atkinson

I am a Glider pilot and a member of the GFA.

I am also a current military (AF/A-18) pilot, and commercial pilot.

A thriving aviation sector that includes strong Sport aviation engagement is critical for Australia's future.

Core messages for the panel to consider include:

- That Part 149 Approved Organisation model is the best way forward,
- Funding and the method of fair audit of the GFA requires ongoing consultation,
- GFA is held in high regard by aviation generally and is well placed in cooperation with CASA to build upon its existing administration and oversight of gliding in Australia,
- The attitude currently demonstrated by the regulator is, at times, contrary to the aims of a vibrant, successful, diverse and thriving aviation sector. The regulator's prime (sole?) concern should be 'safety'; any action, change, or other must be a realistic and affordable improvement to safety.
- A Ministerial Policy is urgently needed directing CASA to adopt a core mission to support and promote gliding and other sports aviation as the backbone of general, corporate and airline aviation.

Thank you for your consideration and appreciation of the importance of the Gliding Federation of Australia in the sport and recreational aviation sector.