



Director, Project Strategy Unit
Strategic & Economic Policy Projects
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2016

12 November 2020

Attn. Ms Jenny Callen

Dear Ms Callen

Flying to Recovery – The Future of Australia’s Aviation Sector Issues Paper 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed new *Flying to Recovery* Issues Paper. In reviewing this issues paper Council is aware of the need to manage the economic impacts of COVID-19 on the aviation sector in a manner that will assist in resurrecting the airline industry and Australia’s economy.

While Council strongly supports measures that will assist the aviation sector in moving forward, both during and after COVID-19, it also considers it essential that the welfare of the local communities, in and around airports, is safeguarded.

In this respect, and specifically in relation to Sydney Airport, Inner West Council seeks assurance that the Airport’s current caps and curfew will not be affected. It is also considered that this is an opportune time to endeavour to achieve the movement distribution targets envisaged under Sydney Airport’s LTOP.

Additionally, in relation to specific sections of the issues paper, Council provides the following comments for consideration:

- **Reducing the Regulatory Burden: Demand Management at Sydney Airport:**
 - In response to the 2019 Productivity Commission *Enquiry into Economic Regulation of Airports* it is understood that the Australian Government will soon commence a comprehensive review of legislation governing Sydney Airport’s demand management. In carrying out this review Council requests that the Government note that it is essential that the existing cap and curfew for Sydney Airport be retained and that opportunities should be explored to reduce the cap and extend the curfew once Western Sydney (Nancy Bird Walton) Airport is operational;
 - Council also requests that it be actively involved in the proposed review of Sydney Airport’s demand management;
 - Further, Council requests that other adjacent Councils (and their communities), as well as the Sydney Airport Community Forum, be actively involved in this proposed review.
- **Reducing the Regulatory Burden: Airspace Management:**
 - It is understood that the Australian Government will soon commence consultation to inform the development of an Australian Airspace Policy Statement, and it is

requested that Inner West Council be actively involved in this process (in relation to Sydney's Airspace). This involvement would assist both Council and the Government in further developing appropriate policies for lands adjacent to Sydney Airport;

- Council requests that other adjacent Councils (and their communities), as well as the Sydney Airport Community Forum, be actively involved in this proposed review.
- **Reducing the Regulatory Burden: Facilitating New and Emerging Technologies:**
 - As the various policies and guidelines relating to new and emerging technologies (including drones and eVTOL vehicles) are developed Council requests that it be actively consulted to assist both Council and the Government in developing appropriate policies for lands adjacent to airports, as well as the control of airspace over major new development areas such as the Bays Precinct;
- **Reducing the Regulatory Burden: Safe, Secure and Environmentally Sustainable Aviation:**
 - Council welcomes the opportunity to be involved in assisting the Government in enhancing safe air travel, secure aviation, and most particularly environmentally sustainable aviation.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission please contact Ken Welsh, Council's Team Leader of Strategic Transport Planning on [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Manod Wickramasinghe
Manager- Traffic & Transport Planning