



Senate Rural & Regional Affairs & Transport Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2024-25
Monday, 24 February 2025
Daily summary

The committee met from 9:01am until 10:59pm.

The committee called the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts portfolio, discussing the following topics:

Corporate matters

- Cultural activities of the Department;
- Diversity and Inclusion Champions network;
- Staffing figures at the Senior Executive Service level;
- Contracts entered in the 2023-24 financial year;
- Departmental expenditure on hospitality;
- Advertising expenditure; and
- Overseas postings.

Outcome 1

- Federal Infrastructure funding updates;
- Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program update; and
- Construction Industry Culture Task Force.

Outcome 2

- Brisbane Airport Master Plan;
- Impacts of aircraft noise in Brisbane;
- Government response to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee's report on the *Impact and mitigation of aircraft noise*;
- Implementation of the Aviation White Paper initiatives;
- New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (NVES);
- Maritime Strategic Fleet;
- ROVER administration system for the Road Vehicle Standards (RVS) legislation; and
- Rex Airlines Administration and the Aviation Response Taskforce.

Outcome 3

- Urban precincts and partnerships program;
- Thriving Suburbs Program;
- Growing Regions Program; and
- Stronger Community Guidelines.

Airservices Australia

- Chinese military live firing in the Tasman Sea;
- Brisbane Airport operations; and
- Staffing levels of Air Traffic Controllers.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority

- Pilot licensing; and
- Air Operators Certificate applications.

Infrastructure Australia

- Project evaluation engagement; and
- Suburban Rail Loop evaluation.

Australian Rail Track Corporation & Inland Rail Pty Ltd

- Inland Rail project stage updates.

High Speed Rail Authority

- Use of consulting firms; and
- High Speed Rail Business Case.

Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator

- Code of practice for train illumination.

National intermodal Corporation

- Beveridge Intermodal Precinct project updates.

The committee released the officers of Outcome 4 of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility and the Western Sydney Airport Corporation from the hearing.

The committee will return tomorrow to examine the Agriculture portfolio on Tuesday, 25 February 2025 at 9.00am.