



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Transport**

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Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on  
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport  
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### **Inquiry into the Effectiveness of Airservices Australia's Management of Aircraft Noise**

The following comments are those of the Western Australian Department of Transport (Transport) to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Reference Committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of Airservices Australia's (ASA) management of aircraft noise. ASA has jurisdiction and responsibilities to provide air traffic services and protect the environment from the effects associated with the operation of aircraft.

Between 2006 and 2008, ASA undertook the Western Australian Route Review Project (WARRP). The consultation model used during the WARRP involved consulting with the Perth Airport Noise Management Consultative Committee (PANMCC). This committee included Federal and State MPs and representatives from community organisations and the Western Australian Government. As ASA have admitted, the information provided concerning changes to flight paths was of such a technical nature that many of the stakeholder's representatives on PANMCC were not aware of the full consequences of the flight path changes. Changes identified through WARRP were implemented in November 2008. The changes by ASA to flight paths led to residents in surrounding locations of Perth Airport and the Perth Hills area lodging a considerable number of complaints with their respective State and Federal Members of Parliament.

It is Transport's view that to prevent a similar issue arising in the future that ASA may need to re-examine its communication with stakeholders, particularly those with non technical backgrounds. Further ASA needs to:

- engage effectively with those affected communities to mitigate reaction to Perth and Jandakot airport operations; and
- engage more fully with the PANMCC to develop efficient processes for environmental assessment of its future changes to flight paths.

  
Alastair Bryant  
*Acting Director General*

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