

Dear Committee Members

During the recent public meeting in Longreach on Tuesday 10th April, the committee asked the Deputy Mayor of the Blackall Tambo Regional Council, Councillor Lindsay Russell, to advise who has responsibility for the setting of landing fees at airports.

Councillor Russell has asked me to respond.

Landing fees are set by the owners of airports. In rural and remote areas this is generally the local government authority. Charges vary from airport to airport. In the case of the Blackall airport in central western Queensland, landing fees were increased marginally this financial year.

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Landing fees per tonne | \$ 9.50 |
| Passenger embark/disembark fee adult | \$17.50 |
| Passenger embark/disembark fee child | \$ 9.00 |
| Passenger/baggage check screening | \$13.00 |

These fees are lower than charges in most neighbouring airports.

Blackall airport operations are subsidised between \$200K - \$300K per annum by Council.

There is resistance to increases by airlines, although we believe these charges are passed onto passengers. Council was cautioned by an airline that if these fees made the service unviable we would lose it.

I trust this answers the committees enquiry.

Regards

Chris Blanch
Chief Executive Officer

P: (07) 4621 6600
F: (07) 4657 8855
E: ceo@btrc.qld.gov.au



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