

22 January 2018
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

To the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee,

In late CY 2017 Virgin Air pulled out of servicing the Brisbane --> Moranbah (and vice versa) route. Since that time, QANTAS has been the single provider of commercial flights on that route, and as a consequence demand has skyrocketed along with prices.

While Virgin and QANTAS were both still flying the route, a person could buy a one-way ticket (with QANTAS), approximately two weeks before the flight at approximately \$270 – 350. Since Virgin stopped flying this route and QANTAS has become the sole provider, prices for the same situation now sit at approximately \$700 – 1100+ (one-way!).

Check the price history and I'm sure you could make some interesting graphs showing the madness in action.

This situation is untenable in the long run. These kind of prices will cost people their jobs, and the rural communities will lose out because of it.

Regards

Joachim Schroeter