

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates 2022 - 2023

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Committee Question Number: 240

Departmental Question Number: SQ22-000836

Division/Agency Name: Agency - Airservices Australia

Hansard Reference: Written (7 December 2022)

Topic: SODPROPS Procedures

Senator Larissa Waters asked:

Following on from Airservices' response to QoN #65 SODPROPS procedures (Budget Estimates 2022 / 2023 – 31 March 2022), please provide:

- the current documentation guiding ATCs in Brisbane comprising “triggers, capacity considerations and time required to change to SODPROPS from other modes”
- the improved version Airservices suggested it would have released by June 2022 (if not released, please provide an updated timeframe for release)
- data on the actual improvements to the occurrence of SODPROPS as a measure of time (not percentages) since these new guidelines have been released.

Answer:

The documentation which sets out the modes of operation at Brisbane Airport includes:

- Brisbane Enroute Supplement Australia (ERSA)
https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aip/current/ersa/FAC_YBBN_01DEC2022.pdf
- Departure and Approach Procedures (DAP)
<https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aip/current/dap/AeroProcChartsTOC.htm#B>

Temporary Local Instruction TLI_22_0151: Trial of Expanded SODPROPS use was published on 8 July 2022 to clarify roles and responsibilities and support decision-making for Simultaneous Opposite Direction Parallel Runway Operations (SODPROPS) mode selection at Brisbane. The SODPROPS extension of hours trial and TLI_22_0151 are reviewed 3 monthly to ensure the ongoing safety of operations. The last review occurred on 10 November 2022 where Airservices reaffirmed air traffic services were provided in accordance with acceptably safe practices. A copy of TLI_22_0151 is at **Attachment A**.

Use of SODPROPS increased by 137 hours in the four months following the release of TLI_22_0151 (528 hours between 9 July 2022 and 9 November 2022, versus 391 hours between 9 March 2022 and 8 July 2022). This resulted in an additional 799 aircraft movements being directed over the water (3,664 movements between 9 July 2022 and 9 November 2022, versus 2,665 movements between 9 March 2022 and 8 July 2022).

Attachment A

OFFICIAL
Temporary Local Instruction

Instruction

To maximise the use of over water operations SODPROPS will be the preferred mode of operation in addition to **2200 - 0600 HR Local Daily**:

SAT: 0600 – 0800L and 2000 – 2200L

SUN: 0600 – 0800L

Decision Making Process:

- TWR OCA shall advise TCU OCA when aerodrome conditions permit the use of SODPROPS
- TCU OCA shall consider whether the traffic disposition and workload in the TCU and surrounding enroute airspace is suitable for SODPROPS and advise TWR OCA
- If conditions are suitable for the TWR and TCU, the TWR OCA will initiate SODPROPS

To assess the suitability of SODPROPS, the TCU OCA shall monitor forecast traffic to aid mode selection via ATFM search of YBSU & YBCG, and observation of the D:YBSU, A:YBSU and A:YBCG TMWs. The OM/SS may assist in conducting ATFM searches.

Runway nomination conditions remain as defined in [MATS](#) 12.2.1 Selection of runway in use.

Maintain the [NOPM](#) 3.1 *Acceptance Rates* for SODPROPS during that period until weather conditions dictate an alternate, or until ESTIMATED AIRBORNE TRAFFIC DELAYS exceed the applicable ERSA advice. Safety considerations apply.

The TCU OCA holder shall record (via SM journal) and report usage of SODPROPS to NCC via the NOR, providing cessation time of SODPROPS and detailed reason.

This TLI and relevant NOTAM will be reviewed 3 Monthly.