

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Budget Estimates 2023 - 2024**

**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

**Committee Question Number: 179**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ23-003767**

**Division/Agency Name: Agency - Airservices Australia**

**Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 118-119 (23 May 2023)**

**Topic: Airservices - drop-in sessions**

**Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:**

Senator MCKENZIE: That is as I took it. You had spent \$11 million on consultants and you had allocated \$15 million to implement the recommendations arising from the post implementation review in Brisbane. That was the evidence given then. On 12 April this year, Airservices Australia released a schedule of 13 drop-in sessions for communities to raise concerns with the noise sharing proposal as part of the noise action plan for Brisbane. Is that correct?

Mr Curran: That's correct.

Senator MCKENZIE: Thank you. I have been advised that residents are concerned that these 13 sessions were very poorly advertised, particularly considering that new suburbs will now be affected. How did we advertise these?

Mr Curran: Thank you, Senator. We undertook a number of activities to raise community awareness about these consultation sessions. I am just looking for the numbers specifically on that and the process we undertook. We undertook the sessions at 13 locations, as you said. We had more than 850 attendees at them. The activities that we undertook for these 13 sessions included notifications to communities through the Engage website, which has an outreach to 1,700 subscribers.

Senator MCKENZIE: So 1,700?

Mr Curran: It is 1,700 subscribers.

Senator MCKENZIE: Engage has 1,700 subscribers. How many impacted households are in this area?

Mr Curran: I would have to take that on notice because there are a number of communities. I will runthrough. There's quite an extensive—

Senator MCKENZIE: Are we talking a couple of thousand or are we talking tens of thousands?

Mr Curran: It is tens of thousands across Brisbane.

Senator MCKENZIE: Tens of thousands and we've advertised it on something with 1,700. No worries. Keep going.

Mr Curran: We did outreach through those who we hold in our database who have previously made complaints, which is 3,312. We distributed information through a letter in social media to offer sharing to state and federal members. On 20 April, we launched the noise action plan for Brisbane, which invited community feedback. We did that through a range of media inquiries. We held a press conference on 21 April, which was attended by TV channels Seven, Nine and Ten. The ABC also covered the story but without interviewing

Airservices Australia. We held a media interview on 10 May at the Toombul community session, which was attended by Channel Seven. We advertised in a number of newspapers, including the Courier-Mail. We placed two advertisements there. In a New Farm—

Senator McKENZIE: A full-page advertisement in the Courier-Mail at page 2?

Mr Curran: I would have to take that on notice. I have a copy of it.

Senator McKENZIE: Or up in the back?

Mr Curran: It wasn't up in the back. It's probably somewhere between the two, I would say.

Senator McKENZIE: I would like that on notice.

Mr Curran: We targeted advertised into areas where we know that communities will be impacted or potentially impacted by the options we are consulting on. It went to New Farm's My Village News, the Kenmore Local Bulletin, the Moreton Bay Sentinel, Ipswich News Today, Logan West News, MyCity Logan and the Village Pump in Samford. We also advertised on Facebook, which included online advertising targeting the geographic locations of the 13 community meetings that we were conducting.

Senator McKENZIE: How many followers do you have?

Mr Curran: We advertise that through Facebook groups. The information I have is that the population that reaches is one to two million. That is fairly broad, but that is what we were aiming to reach. We also used local Facebook groups. We undertook some consultation as a part of the post implementation review, which we closed out in December last year. In that consultation, we specifically asked communities, 'How can we consult better?' We understand that we will be going through this noise action plan over the next year or so. The feedback we got was to use local Facebook groups. We engaged with local Facebook groups. I think there are just over 30 local Facebook groups. I have a list of them. I could provide them on notice.

Senator McKENZIE: On notice will be fine...

**Answer:**

1. Airservices uses population data to estimate the population affected by aircraft noise. **Table 1** estimates the population within the 60 decibel noise contour (for the operations being consulted) for:

- current aircraft operations
- the proposed options (using the option impacting the highest number of people where more than one option was presented).

**Table 1**

Aircraft operation	Current population within 60 decibel noise contour*	Population within 60 decibel noise contour for the option impacting the highest number of people*
Legacy runway daytime over-water departure crossing Redlands to the south	2,396	336
Legacy runway night-time over-water departure crossing Redlands to the south	336	567 (one option increased the population affected, all others reduced the population affected)

Legacy runway night-time over-water departure crossing the airport to travel north	336	336
New runway over-water departure crossing Bribie Island to the north-west	10,526	336
Legacy runway over land jet departure to the north-east - early turn to climb over water	145,412	52,606
Legacy runway night-time over land departure to the north	191,069	No options presented. Feedback requested on noise sharing ideas.
Early morning turboprop departures overland north and west	Population affected cannot be modelled due to the variability of tactically managed operations.	

*\*Population count methodology is based on Census 2021 data used with Statistical Area Level 1s (SA1s) inside the noise contours for each option. The 60 decibels noise contour is used as it aligns with Australian Standard 2021:2015; a 60 decibel event outside is approximately 50 decibels indoors, which is acceptable under the Standard.*

2. Quarter page advertisements to promote engagement were placed in the Courier Mail on:

- 17 April 2023 (page 2)
- 21 April 2023 (page 10)

Tear sheets for each advertisement are provided in **Attachment A** and **Attachment B**.

3. The following local Facebook groups were contacted to request sharing of information about the engagement sessions:

- Acacia Ridge 4110 Ridge Life
- Acacia Ridge Community Page
- Balmoral Community
- Belmont Community QLD
- Belmont Tingalpa Community Group
- Brookfield Sisterhood
- Bulimba Balmoral Hawthorne & Morningside Local Group
- I love Bulimba & 4171
- Carina Neighbourhood Hub and Community
- Corinda Sherwood 4074
- Cornubia Community Page
- Deception Bay Community Page
- Deception Bay Community Watch
- Hamilton 4007/4010/4011 Community Noticeboard
- Hamilton, Ascot & Hendra Community Noticeboard
- 4007 Ascot & Hamilton
- 4007 Ascot, Clayfield and Surrounds
- Kenmore 4069\*
- Kimberly Plateau Neighbourhood Watch
- Logan Community Page

- Loganholme Community
- Moreton Community
- North Brisbane News
- North Stradbroke Island (Minjerrabah) Community Matters
- Nundah Northgate and Surrounds
- Nundah Northgate Community
- Oxley Community 4075
- Redlands Community Wall
- Samford Valley Community Noticeboard
- Shailer Park Community Page
- Sherwood 4075
- Yeronga Community

\* Kenmore 4069 group indicated they would not share the information as it was promoted elsewhere.

### **Attachments**

A: Courier Mail advertisement – 17 April 2023

B: Courier Mail advertisement – 21 April 2023

02 NEWS

The Courier-Mail | Apr 17, 2023

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Gold Lotto

Draw 4355 15-4-23  
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Dividends	Winners
1 \$783,459.23	7
2 \$11,440.35	59
3 \$961.05	1063
4 \$28.30	53,482
5 \$16.80	140,957
6 \$9.45	759,823

Weather

**TODAY**  
Min 19 Max 30  
Partly cloudy

**TOMORROW**  
Min 18 Max 27  
Partly cloudy

# MP TOLD TO STAY AWAY

## Cops didn't want minister to face media over mum's murder

EXCLUSIVE  
**Stephanie Bennett**  
**Thomas Chamberlin**

Youth Justice Minister Leanne Linard was told by her staff police didn't want her at a media conference the day after North Lakes mother Emma Lovell was allegedly murdered by two teens.

Emails obtained by The Courier-Mail sent on December 27 – the day after Ms Lovell died – show correspondence between Ms Linard, her media adviser, her chief of staff and Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk's team discussing who would address the media.

An email to the minister at 11.20am says "as you probably know, Premier's (office) have asked you to do a stand up (press conference) re the incident in North Lakes. They have said we can choose the location but it needs to be at 3.30pm".

Ms Linard responds: "I'll stand up with police at 2.30pm. Not sure where 3.30pm came from."

Her staffer then responds the new time came from the Premier's media adviser, and "police have said they don't want to stand up with you and want you to do a separate

stand-up". A text message sent by the Premier's media adviser about ten minutes later then says Ms Linard will hold a press conference with police – which she did – and includes a number of talking points.

Ms Palaszczuk's office did not directly respond to questions from The Courier-Mail about whether her staff intervened and insisted Ms Linard appear with police.

A Queensland Police spokeswoman said: "It is common practice that in co-ordinating a media conference, a range of options will be considered including spokesperson, timing and location."

"This media conference was co-ordinated in tight timeframes in the midst of a high-profile homicide investigation following a tragic incident the night before," she said.

LNP police spokesman Dale Last accused the government of using a homicide investigation "like their own media stage show".

"The Palaszczuk Labor Government has no shame politicising Queensland Police to promote themselves, even after police said they did not want the Minister there," he said.

Right to Information docu-



ments revealed this week exchanges between the Premier and Ms Linard's teams in the days following Ms Lovell's death, including that changes were made to Ms Palaszczuk's signature youth crime policy announcement just 15 minutes before a press conference.

Youth Justice Minister Leanne Linard on Sunday said the last-minute issues raised related to a media release and not the "measured process" the government went through.

When asked if it was "frantic

and chaotic behind the scenes" given staff questioned the legality of the wording about youth justice reform programs, requesting changes just minutes before a press conference, Ms Linard said the changes were about "proof-reading" a media release.

Police Minister Mark Ryan said the government's youth justice laws were "considered and measured".

"Anyone who has one per cent of understanding about how government works knows that formulating policy

positions takes time, it takes many months," he said.

"Just remember that at the time of this announcement, the opposition were calling for parliament to be recalled immediately."

"They wanted the laws debated urgently."

"The government was considered and measured, went to consultation once the announcement was made and then went through a proper parliamentary process to ensure that the laws were implemented appropriately."

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**Staying at Home**  
A carer wellbeing respite program

**airservices australia**

### Noise Action Plan for Brisbane

Airservices Australia is hosting community engagement sessions across Brisbane to discuss flightpath change options to reduce the impact of current over-water operations on bayside communities, as well as night-time operations on legacy runway communities.

Residents are encouraged to view the information online at Engage Airservices, as some options shift the location of aircraft operations.

Drop-in sessions are being held in/near suburbs that may experience a change if the options are implemented:

26 April - Sherwood	9 May - Loganholme
27 April - Samford Valley	10 May - Northgate
2 May - Redland Bay	11 May - Balmoral
3 May - Acacia Ridge	13 May - Wynnum
4 May - Kanmore	15 May - Carina
6 May - Amity Point	16 May - Deception Bay
8 May - Hamilton	

For more information and to register your attendance, visit [engage.airservicesaustralia.com/nap4b](https://engage.airservicesaustralia.com/nap4b)

# Sweeping changes hit RBA

## Board split, broader representation

Clare Armstrong

Interest rate decisions will be better explained to Australian households, happen less often and be informed by a wider range of experts under changes to strengthen and rebuild public trust in the Reserve Bank.

Mortgage holders will only have to grapple with cash rate changes a maximum of eight times a year, instead of the current 12, as part of reforms proposed in an independent review released on Thursday.

Treasurer Jim Chalmers has given "in principle" support to all 51 recommendations made by the expert review panel, which found the current RBA board model was struggling and had lost "credibility" after several damning policy mistakes.

"My goal here throughout is a world-class central bank, which is more effective, more transparent, and more independent – calling on more expertise to make its important decisions," he said.

There has been widespread criticism of the central bank and Governor Philip Lowe after he wrongly predicted interest rates would not rise after the pandemic until 2024.



Philip Lowe

The review said the RBA made itself "vulnerable" to unexpected economic developments during the pandemic when it offered guidance on far longer term forecasts than most of its international peers and did not update advice as outlooks changed.

A key recommendation from the review is to split the bank's board into two, with one group entirely focused on setting interest rates. This board would bring in a wider range of experts to challenge and debate decisions, be required to communicate more with the public and, with fewer meetings a year, have six weeks each time to conduct research, deliberate and assess economic impacts.

Mr Lowe backed the sweep-

ing recommendations, but rejected criticism his board did not have sufficient expertise or a "limited" culture of challenge and debate. "I find that part of the review discussion not quite lining up with the reality that I know," he said.

With his term as governor expiring in September, Mr Lowe said his potential re-appointment in the role was up to the government, but it asked to serve again he would.

Recommendations enhancing the transparency and accountability of the RBA were welcomed by Opposition treasury spokesman Angus Taylor, as was the review's assessment of the bank's recent mistakes.

"Many households and businesses have paid a real price for those errors," he said.

"It's important that everything be done as much as possible, at least to prevent that happening again in the future."

Mr Chalmers also announced the appointment of two members to the RBA board who both have deep ties to the union movement.

Former judge and Fair Work Commission president Iain Ross and ex-AustralianSuper chair Elena Rubin, were announced as part time members.



Treasurer Jim Chalmers releases the RBA review recommendations. Picture: Dan Peled/NCA Newswire

## Reserve Bank review maps a road to economic ruin

Terry McCrann  
Analysis



The single most important change recommended by the RBA review – and accepted absolutely and unqualified by Jim Chalmers – is intellectually incoherent and a recipe for future disaster.

This is the co-equal policy targets of "price stability" – that's to say 2-3 per cent inflation – and "full employment", which is best described as how long is a piece of string.

It is not simply that one is clear cut. We know what 2-3 per cent inflation is. We can tangibly measure it.

Full employment? What's that? And what about, as RBA governor Philip Lowe said at his press conference on Thursday, under-

employment? Ah, the review cackhandedly responded: the RBA can tell us what it thinks full employment is and how it's aiming to get there.

The far more substantive and dangerously irreconcilable point is that the two are often directly at odds. As we saw most strikingly in the early 1990s.

We had to accept – or rather the RBA imposed – job-crunching double-digit interest rates for years to get inflation down to the 2-3 per cent, which was the foundation of our prosperity through the 1990s and 2000s.

The fundamental point that the review trio were seemingly incapable of understanding is that sustained low inflation – and the expectation of sustained low inflation – is the absolute pre-condition for sustained low unemployment.

Bernie Fraser, who was governor of the RBA from 1989 to 1996 – and was not an RBA insider; he came from Treasury and was appointed by then treasurer Paul Keating to do the God King's bidding – knew that in his bones.

To Keating's eternal disappointment – and to the long-term benefit of the nation – Fraser failed to do that bidding, running down to the 1996 election.

Yes, the original 1968 legislation mandates three objectives for the RBA – price stability (low inflation), full employment and the feel-good "economic welfare and prosperity of the people of Australia".

The key point is that the only way to achieve all three objectives was to first and fundamentally get the sustainable low inflation.



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