

**Question on notice no. 123**

**Portfolio question number: SQ21-001088**

**2021-22 Supplementary Budget Estimates**

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development and Communications Portfolio**

**Senator Larissa Waters:** asked the Civil Aviation Safety Authority on 5 November 2021—

Did CASA ensure that Airservices complied with its internal Safety Management System requirements when changing the separation standards / separation assurance?  
Specifically:

Was an ESIR submitted detailing the incorrect applications of standards / separation assurance?

Were the correct environmental assessments carried out regarding any potential noise impacts of the change of procedures?

Was a Temporary Local Instruction issued regarding the changes?

Were the training impacts assessed for the changes made?

Was an internal PIR carried out to determine if other errors had been made in the implementation of the NPR airspace changes?

**Answer —**

Answer attached.

**Rural And Regional Affairs And Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2021 - 2022**

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

**Committee Question Number: 123**

**Departmental Question Number:** SQ21-001088

**CASA reference:** SQ21-00005

**Division/Agency Name:** Civil Aviation Safety Authority

**Hansard Reference:** Written, Page No. (05 November 2021)

**Topic:** CASA - Incorrect safety standards / separation assurance - Airservices compliance

**Senator Larissa Waters asked:**

- 1) Did CASA ensure that Airservices complied with its internal Safety Management System requirements when changing the separation standards / separation assurance? Specifically:
  - a) Was an ESIR submitted detailing the incorrect applications of standards / separation assurance?
  - b) Were the correct environmental assessments carried out regarding any potential noise impacts of the change of procedures?
  - c) Was a Temporary Local Instruction issued regarding the changes?
  - d) Were the training impacts assessed for the changes made?
  - e) Was an internal PIR carried out to determine if other errors had been made in the implementation of the NPR airspace changes?

**Answer:**

1. The Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) reviewed Airservices Australia's (Airservices) Implementation Safety Case in April 2020 which addressed application of existing parallel runway standards at Brisbane. CASA raised several issues with Airservices, which were addressed during the review phase. Airservices did not seek and CASA did not approve any variation to separation standards.
  - a) Two Safety Findings were issued by CASA to Airservices on 16 July 2021 regarding the Safety Assessment process for implementing the separation standards.
  - b) CASA does not review environmental assessments.
  - c) Airservices published several Temporary Local Instructions.
  - d) During surveillance in April 2020, it was noted that training was developed and conducted for the change implementation. A safety finding was issued to Airservices on 16 July 2021 regarding minor deficiencies in the training.
  - e) In October 2021, Airservices commenced its post implementation review.