

Question on notice no. 176

Portfolio question number: SQ24-001395

2024-25 Supplementary budget estimates

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio

Senator Jacqui Lambie: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts on 14 November 2024—

Despite growth in passenger movements and in overall capacity, there has been a decrease in the number of regional aerodromes served, down from 278 in 1984 to 142 in 2021.

Between 1989 and 2021, the number of regional routes fell from 458 to 291 and the number of remote routes fell from 264 to 163.

1. Does the department have a defined program for engaging with the operators of the tier 2 regional airports?
 - a. In what form are these engagements and how often are they conducted?
 - b. Which regional airport operators has the department engaged with since 1 July 2022?
 - c. What's the feedback/findings from these engagements with the regional airport operators?