

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 84

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** ILS installation

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 85 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Fawcett asked:**

**Senator FAWCETT:** You gave us an answer on notice from the last estimates and you indicated you committed funds for one ILS facility in your forward capital program. Can you advise what other airports are within your forward program for ILS installation?

**Ms Staib:** I will have to take that on notice. I do not have that detail to hand.

**Senator FAWCETT:** I think this department is on tomorrow again; can you come back? Clearly answers to questions on notice will probably come far too late in terms of election periods and things.

**Ms Staib:** Certainly.

**Answer:**

The financial year 2013/14 capital program contains one new ILS proposed for Gold Coast Airport. Airservices is also installing an ILS at Gladstone Airport, funded by the airport.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 85

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** Airport Capacity Enhancement program

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 91 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Smith asked:**

**Senator SMITH:** So, specifically around initiative No. 2 of the Airport Capacity Enhancement program, if I am correct, it has five particular activities and when this was signed there were three of them planned and two of them completed. What is the progress report against those three planned activities?

**Mr Harfield:** Can I take that on notice just so that I can give you the accurate information?

**Senator SMITH:** Yes.

**Answer:**

**Activity 3: Include the High Intensity Runway Operations (HIRO) information in Aeronautical Information Package (AIP) Departure and Approach Procedures (DAP) and En Route Supplement Australia (ERSA).**

Identification and implementation of the appropriate High Intensity Runway Operations (HIRO) procedures and techniques for Perth Airport have been developed and are scheduled for promulgation to industry in October 2013.

**Activity 4: Conduct controller/pilot forums**

Fifteen meetings of the Perth ACE Management Team have been held to coincide with the timing of pilot/controller forums. In addition, dedicated sessions with higher levels of representation from these groups are being periodically convened by Airservices to address specific air traffic service topics.

**Activity 5: Establish performance measurement and reporting regime**

Progress against this activity includes:

- development of the Operational Runway Analysis (OpeRA) software tool to streamline the process of recording manual observations;
- subsequent collection of operational data using this tool in both February and April 2013; and
- establishment of a Data Integrity Reporting Team to provide reporting capability associated with airport performance and operational efficiency. The availability of a routine Perth Airport Daily Performance Report is a priority activity.

In addition, the runway performance measurements have been statistically analysed and have already been shared and discussed with industry.

With the planned introduction of the Advanced Surface Movement Guidance & Control System (ASMGCS) at Perth Airport in 2014 it will be possible to automate the collection of a broad range of runway performance metrics at which stage the ACE program will generate monthly Runway Occupancy Time reports as is the current practice at Melbourne and Brisbane Airports.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 86

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** Perth Airport capacity

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 92 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Smith asked:**

**Senator SMITH:** So, at the last estimates you talked about having limited success in terms of the airport capacity issue. You talked about an aspirational goal—they are my words—of looking for 10 to 20 movements an hour. How far progressed are we in terms of reaching that aspirational goal?

**Mr Harfield:** We have made some improvement. To give the quantum I will take that on notice and we will provide that.

**Senator SMITH:** While we are talking about taking things on notice, the strategic plan and roadmap contains 103 initiatives to improve airport capacity and in March this year 10 were described as completed, three were described as active and 89 were described as planned. What I would like to know, as of May, what is the number of completed, number of active and number of planned? In addition to that, I am just keen to understand too that we are talking the same language, so when we say 'planned', they have been identified and planned or identified, planned and activated. So, are they underway?

**Mr Harfield:** We will give you the proper definition so we will be talking of the same thing.

**Senator SMITH:** I would be keen to know what the definition is around 'completed' as well.

**Answer:**

The first review of arrival rates at Perth Airport since the commencement of this program in October last year was held at the Perth ACE meeting in August 2013. The review identified opportunities to increase rates during peak arrival periods and operating procedures are being developed to safely deliver improved efficiencies.

In relation to the strategic plan and roadmap a number of terms are used to assist in the tracking and planning of the associated activities:

- Planned - This is a scheduled activity within the Strategic Plan that has not commenced;
- Active - This activity is in progress; and
- Completed - This activity has been completed or is finished.

The status of the 103 activities that were identified in the Strategic Plan as at the end of August 2013 is 27 completed, 39 active and 37 planned.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 87

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** WA Future growth

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 93 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Smith asked:**

**Senator SMITH:** In terms of future growth, what is the source of information for that future growth and are industry bodies like the Chamber of Commerce and Minerals and the Western Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry doing enough to furnish yourselves and others with information about projected growth?

**Mr Menon:** We work closely with the CME.

**Senator SMITH:** Are they providing enough information?

**Mr Menon:** They have provided us periodically with reports that are quantitative in nature which demonstrate the future growth and the anticipated growth in terms of the FIFO industry and so on.

**Senator SMITH:** Are they public documents? Can you make them available to me?

**Mr Menon:** I will take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia provides an annual 'State Growth Outlook' document which can be downloaded from the CMEWA website [www.cmewa.com](http://www.cmewa.com).

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 88

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** Flight paths

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 93-94 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Rhiannon asked:**

**Senator RHIANNON:** On this issue of flight paths I am getting complaints from people around East Melbourne near the MCG. They are reporting that in their area aircraft noise was previously less intrusive because the aircraft were flying over waterways and highways. I am told that many of them feel that this is no longer the case, with the aircraft flying over residential areas. Has there been a change in the regulatory regime, or however you manage this, which has permitted a change in the flying patterns and is resulting in the complaints that I am now receiving?

**Ms Staib:** I am aware of the issues around East Melbourne and specifically regarding the helicopter noise around the MCG. We have been in communication with Adam Bandt to understand exactly because he has represented to us some complaints. This week we received details of what his concerns are—that is, what days and so on—and we are investigating that now. I cannot tell you now whether it has been a change in the regulations but I will take that on notice.

**Senator RHIANNON:** When will you be able to get back to us, because for many people it is a weekly or a daily problem? When would you be able to follow up on that?

**Ms Staib:** Would within a fortnight meet your requirements?

**Senator RHIANNON:** Thank you.

**Answer:**

There has been no change to regulations or the manner in which traffic is managed.

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 89

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** Flight height limits

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 94 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Rhiannon asked:**

**Senator RHIANNON:** I would be interested in any specific response about April with regard to a lot of flights in Melbourne, but also more generally can you take on notice if there are many flights above whatever the limit is, because they do not have to register or whatever it is when you are below that height. Are you judging that this could become dangerous at some point because of the number of aircraft in the air?

**Mr Mrdak:** I think it is important to be clear that aircraft that are operating over residential areas do not operate without air controls. Mr Harfield is setting it out for you and it would probably be beneficial to give you some information about the nature of aircraft operations over urban areas. There are no aircraft that operate in a manner which is unsafe or uncontrolled.

**Senator RHIANNON:** I will ask that in a different way, as I may have misunderstood the response. I thought that the response was that above a certain height you do not have to put in flight plans?

**Mr Mrdak:** No.

**Ms Staib:** It is below a certain height.

**Mr Mrdak:** It is in certain airspace areas. I think it is probably best to get you some information on notice to explain that, because I do not want to leave any impression that there are aircraft operating without any controls or regulatory requirements. That is far from the case.

**Answer:**

Information on airspace categories and altitude of aircraft is comprehensively explained in the Airservices document 'A Guide to Our Operations' which is available on the Airservices website at [http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/12-058BKT\\_Guide-to-our-operations\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/wp-content/uploads/12-058BKT_Guide-to-our-operations_WEB.pdf).

**Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Budget Estimates May 2013

**Infrastructure and Transport**

**Question no.:** 90

**Program:** n/a

**Division/Agency:** (AA) Airservices Australia

**Topic:** Air Traffic Control Review

**Proof Hansard Page/s:** 85 (29/05/2013)

**Senator Fawcett asked:**

**Senator FAWCETT:** Let us come to another media release that you put out this month in terms of the independent review by Nav Canada about air traffic controllers. Can you provide the committee with a copy of that report?

**Ms Staib:** Yes.

**Answer:**

A copy of the review completed by Nav Canada in February 2013 is attached.

**Attachment A -** *Airservices Australia Air Traffic Control Staffing and Workforce Planning Review*, Nav Canada, February 2013.