

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 119

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000459

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Western Sydney City Deal Implementation Plan

Proof Hansard Page: 129 (22 October 2018)

Senator Glenn Sterle asked:

Senator STERLE: I'll go to the Western Sydney City Deal. The department website indicates:

The three levels of government will agree and publish an implementation plan for the City Deal in 2018. The implementation plan will clearly define how these commitments will be delivered, when they will be delivered and who will be responsible.

When will this implementation plan be released?

Mr McRandle: We might need to take that one on notice because the Western Sydney unit in the department is responsible for implementing the deal. I don't have that information in front of me.

Mr Yeaman: The implementation plan is well advanced, I just don't have the month that we're expecting it to be done.

Senator STERLE: Take that on notice.

Answer:

The Implementation Plan is planned to be released in December 2018.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 120

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000467

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Western Sydney Airport flight paths

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

1. Who has responsibility for determining the flight paths for the proposed Western Sydney Airport? What is the current status of the final flight paths?
 - a. Is the Department in communication with the World Heritage Committee relating to potential impacts on the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area? If yes, how?
2. Is any of the construction of the Western Sydney Airport related or contingent on flightpaths, for example the angle of runways?
 - a. If yes, why is construction underway if flightpaths aren't finalised?
 - b. Has there been any directive to delay releasing the flightpaths until after construction has commenced?

Answer:

1. The Australian Government will determine the flight paths for the airport in close consultation with the nation's aviation regulatory agencies and with extensive community consultation. In accordance with Condition 16 of the Western Sydney Airport Plan, an aviation Expert Steering Group, chaired by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, is overseeing the detailed planning and technical design process for the airport's airspace arrangements and flight paths. Development of airspace and flight path arrangements for a new major airport is highly complex and specialised work, requiring several years of planning, design, modelling and validation testing. The design process is currently in the planning phase. A preliminary airspace design will be released for consultation during the preliminary design and environmental assessment phase of the airspace design, expected in 2021. Airspace and flight path design is complex and similar to other airports in Australia. The Australian Government is going to take the time to work extensively with experts and consult with industry and the community to develop flight plans for Western Sydney.
 - a. The government is working closely with the UNESCO World Heritage Centre to ensure that the Centre is informed about the environmental impacts of Western Sydney Airport and that the listing of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area is protected.

Recently the World Heritage Centre acknowledged the Australian Government's approach, stating that they "*wish to commend the Australian authorities for keeping the centre informed of the progress accomplished with the EIS and the approval process, in line with the Operational Guidelines, and thanks the [Australian Government] for doing its due diligence in this regard*". The government is planning the construction and operation of Western Sydney Airport in a way which shows proper recognition of – and which does not have an impact on – the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area listing.
2. No.
 - a. N/A.
 - b. No.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 121

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000468

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Prime Minister's announcement about expanding the airport

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

The Prime Minister's media release on 24 September says that the airport will eventually expand to cater for 82 million passengers. This is bigger than Heathrow in London, JFK in New York, Hong Kong International Airport and a bit less than double Sydney Airports current capacity. What is this based on?

Answer:

The long term capacity of the Western Sydney Airport is forecast to be approximately 82 million annual passengers. This is forecast to occur in the 2060s. This capacity was calculated using the 'Indicative Airport Layout (Long Term)' presented in the Airport Plan for the existing airport site. The calculation is based on adding a second, parallel runway and expansion of terminal and support facilities when there is sufficient passenger demand.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 122

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000469

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Noise mitigation plans

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

What are the current plans for noise mitigation for residents around Western Sydney Airport?

Answer:

See response to Committee question number 127.

Specific noise mitigation measures identified in the Western Sydney Airport Plan that will be addressed through the airspace and flight path design include:

- head-to-head operations, where planes take off and land at the same south-west end of the runway, when it is safe to do so. Head-to-head operations would minimise night-time noise impacts in built-up residential areas, as activity would be over the less developed area to the south-west of the airport site; and
- a noise insulation and property acquisition policy in relation to aircraft overflight noise for buildings outside the airport site, having regard to the 24-hour nature of operations at the airport.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 123

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000470

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Councils at the FOWSA

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

The Forum on Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA) has Penrith, Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains, Liverpool and Campbelltown Councils. Why does it not have Blacktown Council?

Answer:

Reflecting the wide geographic spread of potentially affected communities, FOWSA membership includes up to 10 community representatives and five local government representatives. This level of representation ensures a wide range of views is elicited from different communities and provides transparency of the Australian Government's approach to the airspace and flight path design process. The 22 members bring a broad range of skills, experience and local knowledge, and are drawn from diverse locations and a range of stakeholders across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 124

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000471

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Offset for the destruction of hectares of the Cumberland Plain Woodland

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society has stated that the Australian Government proposes to offset the destruction of 359 hectares of Cumberland Plains Woodland, which I remind you is a Nationally listed Threatened Ecological Community, with Defence land at Orchard Hills, which is already conserved? Is this true?

- i. Is the land proposed to be offset, already an offset for another project?
- ii. What is the cost of the offset?
- iii. Under which legislation, state or federal, is the biodiversity offsetting occurring?

Answer:

- i. No.
- ii. \$70 million.
- iii. The Orchard Hills offset, as part of the Biodiversity Offset Delivery Plan, was approved by the Department of the Environment and Energy and it complies with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, Environmental Offsets Policy.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 125

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000472

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Head-to-head operations

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

1. Is the Federal Government considering 'head to head' operations at Western Sydney Airport?
 - a. If yes, please indicate how and when this will be used?
 - b. Does the Federal Government have to assess first whether noise mitigation is needed at Western Sydney Airport before committing to head to head operations?
2. What other measures is the Federal Government considering to reduce the impact of night-time aircraft operations', which do not involve take-offs and landings to the south-west, 'head to head' operations and the creation of a 'no fly zone'?

Answer:

1. Head-to-head operations are being considered.
 - a. If used, head-to-head operations would occur over the less developed area to the south-west of the airport site at night to minimise noise impacts on built-up residential areas.
 - b. The need for noise mitigation will be assessed during the detailed airspace and flight path design process.
2. The airspace and flight path design process will consider all feasible noise abatement measures for night operations if, and when, head-to-head operations cannot be used. Consistent with the Airport Plan, the Australian Government will develop a noise insulation and property acquisition policy. Furthermore, land use planning controls, which restrict new residences being established in high noise areas, will protect communities from aircraft noise at night (see response to Committee question number 127).

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 126

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000473

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Noise or other impacts on local government areas

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

Are there any expected noise or other impacts on the Blacktown, the Hills and Hornsby Local Government Areas?

Answer:

The frequency and intensity of noise events in specific areas are dependent on the final arrival and departure flight paths to be implemented at Western Sydney Airport. Noise and other community impacts will be considered throughout the airspace and flight path design process. These are currently being developed, however communities will have access to information on flight paths and other impacts several years before airport operations commence.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 127

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000474

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Noise mitigation for Western Sydney Airport

Proof Hansard Page: Written (2 November 2018)

Senator Mehreen Faruqi asked:

Does the Federal Government believe noise mitigation is required during the day and the night?

Answer:

Planning controls have been in place around the Badgerys Creek site for a number of decades to prevent incompatible development in areas of highest predicted noise exposure. On 20 August 2018, the New South Wales Minister for Planning issued a direction under Section 117(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* that ensures development is consistent with the forecast noise exposure contours for Western Sydney Airport – in that residential development is restricted where the Australian Noise Exposure Forecast (ANEF) level exceeds 20. This is the most stringent ANEF control in the country and is an important noise mitigation measure.

In developing flight paths, opportunities to minimise the impacts of aircraft overflight noise on communities will be a key consideration. Noise abatement procedures will be examined for both day-time and night-time operations.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Committee Question Number: 128

Departmental Question Number: SQ18-000513

Program: n/a

Division/Agency: Western Sydney Unit

Topic: Western Sydney City Deal

Proof Hansard Page: Written (7 November 2018)

Senator Glenn Sterle asked:

1. The Department website indicates that, “The three levels of government will agree and publish an implementation plan for the City Deal in 2018. The implementation plan will clearly define how these commitments will be delivered, when they will be delivered and who will be responsible”. When will this implementation plan be released?
2. The website also indicates that, “The three levels of government will establish a long-term governance arrangement”. What is this arrangement? How does it intersect with the Western Sydney Airport?
3. How much money is allocated to this City Deal?
4. How will local councils continue to be engaged in the City Deal?
5. How would you describe their level of engagement? In what ways could this be improved?
6. The website also says that, “The Australian and NSW governments will progress a Strategic Assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) to protect the environment and streamline environmental approvals for development”. How has this progressed?
7. What processes around governance are in place to oversee the successful implementation of the Western Sydney City Deal?
8. How regularly do the Councils meet with the State Government and Federal Government to discuss the City Deal? Please detail dates of all meetings that have occurred since the City Deal was signed in March. Is there a forward meeting schedule? Please provide.
9. What role will the Greater Sydney Commission play in the delivery of the Western Sydney City Deal? How regularly does it meet with the local councils to discuss this? Please provide dates.
10. What progress has been made on the following commitments:
 - a. Establishing an Indigenous Business Hub in the Western City;
 - b. Immediate commencement of the design and investment case for the North South Rail Link (including the South West Rail Link);
 - c. Establishment of the Western Sydney Development Authority;
 - d. Establishment of the Western Sydney Investment Attraction Office;
 - e. Establishment of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Quality and Safeguards Commission in Penrith;
 - f. The release of the Penrith Multi-User Depot for sale;
 - g. Establishment of the Skills Exchange near the Western Sydney Airport;
 - h. Provide \$60 million, with \$30 million from councils, to establish a hallmark Western Parkland City Liveability Program;
 - i. Develop a Strategic Assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) to protect the environment and streamline environmental approvals for development;

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

- j. Undertake land use and infrastructure planning for a new Growth Area for the Greater Penrith to Eastern Creek corridor, and;
 - k. Develop transport and water infrastructure models to innovatively plan for future infrastructure needs.
11. Please provide an implementation timeline for each of these.

Answer:

1. The Implementation Plan is planned to be released in December 2018.
2. Western Sydney City Deal governance arrangements include:
 - a. A Leadership Group, comprising the Minister for Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population, the NSW Minister for Western Sydney, and four of the City Deal Council Mayors representing local governments.
 - b. An Implementation Board, comprising the Secretaries of the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, and the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, Chief Executive Officers/General Managers from the eight City Deal Councils and the Chief Coordinator of the Western Sydney City Deal.
 - c. A Coordination Committee, comprising senior officials from across key Commonwealth, NSW and local government agencies and including the Western Sydney Airport corporation.
 - d. The Governance arrangements are supported by a Western Sydney City Deal Delivery Office, tasked with coordinating and monitoring the delivery of City Deal commitments. The Delivery Office includes staff from all three levels of government and is located in Parramatta.
3. The Western Sydney City Deal includes \$280 million in new funding. The Australian and NSW Governments each announced \$125 million in new commitments. Councils committed \$30 million. This funding is part of a much larger contribution to the region including investment in rail, construction of the Western Sydney Airport, development of government land, and the establishment of new services in the region.
4. See answer to question two.
5. The eight City Deal Councils are working as partners with the Australian and NSW governments to implement the commitments under the Western Sydney City Deal.
6. An agreement under Section 146(1) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the strategic assessment for Western Sydney is currently being considered by the relevant Commonwealth and NSW Ministers.
7. See answer to question two.
8. As described in Answer 2, local councils are represented on all of the City Deal governance bodies. Refer to [Attachment A](#) for a schedule of meeting dates. The 2019 forward schedule for these bodies will be confirmed in early 2019. There is ongoing engagement with local government through the City Deal.
9. The Greater Sydney Commission (GSC) has contributed resources to the Western Sydney City Deal Delivery Office, including staff and office space in Parramatta. GSC engagement with local government is a matter for the GSC. See also answer to question eight.
10. Progress on the City Deal commitments will be published in the Implementation Plan expected to be released in December 2018.
11. Information on the implementation of commitments will be included in the Implementation Plan expected to be released in December 2018.

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019
Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Attachments

- Attachment A – Table of Western Sydney City Deal governance meetings held since 4 March 2018

Rural & Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2018 - 2019

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Attachment A: Table of Western Sydney City Deal governance meetings held since 4 March 2018

Western Sydney City Deal Leadership Group	
Meeting dates	<i>4 July 2018</i> <i>29 August 2018</i> <i>19 November 2018</i>
Members (Rotating Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister for Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population, the Hon Alan Tudge MP (Commonwealth) • Minister for Western Sydney, the Hon Stuart Ayres MP (NSW) • Four representative Mayors of Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly (rotating)

Western Sydney City Deal Implementation Board	
Meeting dates	<i>30 April 2018</i> <i>25 June 2018</i> <i>3 September 2018</i> <i>6 November 2018</i> <i>18 December 2018</i>
Members (Rotating Chair)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (Commonwealth) • Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet (NSW) • Chief Coordinator of the Western Sydney City Deal • Chief Executive Officers/General Managers from the City Deal Councils of Blue Mountains, Camden, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Liverpool, Penrith and Wollondilly

Western Sydney City Deal Coordination Committee (Senior Officials)	
Meeting dates	<i>11 July 2018</i> <i>15 August 2018</i> <i>12 September 2018</i> <i>17 October 2018</i> <i>4 December 2018</i>
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair – Chief Coordinator of the Western Sydney City Deal • Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (Commonwealth) • NSW Government agencies • Western Sydney City Deal Councils • Western Sydney Airport company • Other agencies on an as needs basis