

# Aviation White Paper (AWP)

The AWP sets out the government's long-term policy vision to deliver a safe, competitive, sustainable, productive and efficient aviation sector out to 2050.

- Released on 26 August 2024
- Focuses on 10 aviation policy areas
- 56 policy initiatives developed through extensive consultation with the aviation industry, state and territory governments and communities
- Links to the AWP and supporting factsheets are provided at end of presentation

# AWP - consumer and competition

## A better passenger experience

- Strengthening aviation consumer experiences – including to make travel more accessible for people with disability
- Establishing an Aviation Industry Ombuds Scheme

## Competitive & efficient aviation sector

- Reducing barriers to competition in the aviation sector
- Consulting on and revising Aeronautical Pricing Principles
- Considering whether current settings are effective as part of next periodic PC inquiry into the economic regulation of airports

# AWP - workforce and transition to Net Zero by 2050

## A skilled, secure and productive aviation workforce

Addressing workforce challenges such as:

- shortages - pilots, engineers, cabin crew and security screening personnel
- training and overseas skill recognition
- gender equity (establish a Gender Equity Charter)

## Maximising aviation's contribution to net zero by 2050

- Exploring options such as:
- low carbon liquid fuel (LCLF)
- Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)
- electric and hydrogen powered flight and other developing technologies
- domestic production of low or zero carbon fuels and new technologies

# AWP - regional and remote and general aviation

## Connecting regional Australia

- Direct the Productivity Commission to undertake a review of the determinants of regional airfares to identify opportunities to improve regional services, access to capital cities and reliability
- Extend and expand the Regional Airports Program and the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program
- Update regional and remote aviation program guidelines to report on contributions to Closing the Gap outcomes

## Regenerating general aviation (GA)

- Support GA recognising its role in delivery of emergency services e.g. aero-medical, firefighting, disaster relief, agricultural and other industry air services and for pilot and other aviation industry training
- Support general aviation to facilitate design and manufacture of new technology in Australia

# AWP - airport planning and noise and safety, security and airspace regulation

## A balanced approach to airport planning and noise

- Work with industry to reduce aircraft noise impacts on affected communities and improve airport planning and land use in the development or re-development of airports
- Establish an independent Noise Ombuds function under the Aviation Industry Ombuds Scheme.

## World leading safety, security and airspace regulation

- Reform Australia's aviation regulatory arrangements by 2030 in a 4 stage process
- Proactively manage of an expected doubling of conventional passenger flights by 2050 – with these flights increasingly sharing same airspace with drones and other new technology.

# AWP- enabling new technologies and connecting Australia to the world

## Enabling new aviation technologies

- Support the growth of safe and secure emerging aviation technology and manufacturing
- introduce new legislation by 2030 to protect communities, infrastructure and businesses from security risks from drones and Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) vehicles
- consult on regulatory amendments to manage noise impacts from AAM

## Connecting Australia to the world

- Pursue additional capacity ahead of demand in bi-lateral air service agreements
- Update Framework for New and Developing International airports and sea ports – considering border security and biosecurity standards

## Some AWP linkages

- Future Made in Australia (e.g. SAF and LCLF)
- Australian Jet Zero Council
- Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Roadmap & Action Plan
- 2023 Employment White Paper & 2022 Secure Jobs, Better Pay
- Closing the Gap
- Regional Investment Framework
- Government's response to the Disability Royal Commission
- Thrive 2030 (sustainable visitor economy growth)

# Regional Aviation Programs

Aviation plays an essential role in meeting the needs of regional and remote communities and businesses across Australia.

A number of the White Paper initiatives have a direct focus on supporting safe, accessible and affordable aviation services for regional and remote Australia.

In the 2024-25 Budget the Government provided additional competitive grant funding:

- \$40 million for the Regional Airports Program (RAP) over three years from 2024-25; and
- Round 4 of the RAP is open for applications from 8 October to 18 November 2024.
- \$50 million for the Remote Airstrip Upgrade Program (RAU) over three years from 2024-25.
- The RAU is anticipated to open for applications shortly.