



Director, Governance Section
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional
Development, Communications and the Arts
GPO Box 594
CANBERRA ACT 2601

17 November 2023

Ref No: F2013/00109

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: SYDNEY AIRPORT CONTINUATION OF TEMPORARY CHANGE TO NIGHT-TIME
FREIGHT OPERATIONS**

As a member of the Sydney Airport Community Forum, Council has been invited to make a submission on the curfew dispensation granted to Qantas, Team Global Express and Pionair Australia. The reason for the dispensation is to facilitate additional freight capacity into the network.

It is noted, dispensations were approved as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, essentially in response to the exceptional circumstances created by the social and travel restrictions on Australian aviation, in particular the freight and logistics sectors. These 'exceptional circumstances' justified the authorisation of additional freight movements at Sydney Airport during the curfew period and the use of larger aircraft.

This latest dispensation (that Council has been invited to make a submission on), requires that take-offs and landings do not exceed a total of 80 per week, 7 days per week and permits the use of larger aircraft. This approval is planned to expire on 1 July 2024. Additionally, Council notes from the Dispensation reports for April to July 2023 that curfew flights made up 16% of total movements at Sydney Airport.

In response, Council raises a number of concerns relating to curfew flights based on feedback from affected residents and Council's assessment of currently available data/information on this matter. The following issues are raised:

- The designated curfew runway is the main North South runway. However, this North South runway has been the subject of ongoing runway repairs which Sydney Airport has recently announced will continue for another 2 years (3 years in total). During runway repairs, long haul flights, including freight, are required to use the 3rd runway with flights randomly taking off from this runway during curfew (between the hours of 11pm and 6am) instead of using the designated North South curfew runway. Council has received numerous complaints during this period where local residents report having sleep disturbed during nights when flights taking the 3rd runway outside of the curfew take off close to La Perouse. Particularly, between 6am-7am, La Perouse residents report a significant increase in initial back thrust acceleration noise from planes taking off as these planes come right to the end of the runway (closest to La Perouse) needing the full length of the runway, and put on additional acceleration to ensure they take off within the shorter runway length space afforded by the 3rd runway than that of the main North South runway.

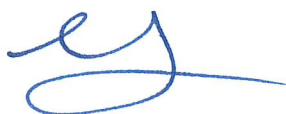
<p>English</p> <p>If you need help to understand this letter, please come to Council's Customer Service Centre and ask for assistance in your language or you can contact the Telephone Interpreter Service (TIS) on 131 450 and ask them to contact Council on 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Greek</p> <p>Αν χρειάζεστε βοήθεια για να καταλάβετε αυτή την επιστολή, παρακαλείστε να έρθετε στο Κέντρο Εξυπηρέτησης Πελατών της Δημαρχίας (Council Customer Service Centre) και να ζητήσετε βοήθεια στη γλώσσα σας ή τηλεφωνήστε στην Τηλεφωνική Υπηρεσία Διερμηνέων (Telephone Interpreter Service — TIS) τηλ. 131 450 και να ζητήσετε να επικοινωνήσουν με τη Δημαρχία τηλ. 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Italian</p> <p>Se avete bisogno di aiuto per capire il contenuto di questa lettera, recatevi presso il Customer Service Centre del Municipio dove potrete chiedere di essere assistiti nella vostra lingua: oppure mettetevi in contatto con il Servizio Telefonico Interpreti (TIS) al 131 450 e chiedete loro di mettervi in contatto col Municipio al 1300 722 542.</p>
<p>Croatian</p> <p>Ako vam je potrebna pomoć da biste razumjeli ovo pismo, molimo dodite u Općinski uslužni centar za klijente (Council's Customer Service Centre) i zatražite pomoć na svom jeziku, ili možete nazvati Telefonsku službu tumača (TIS) na 131 450 i zamoliti njih da nazovu Općinu na 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Spanish</p> <p>A la persona que necesite ayuda para entender esta carta se le ruega venir al Centro de Servicios para Clientes [Customer Service Centre] de la Municipalidad y pedir asistencia en su propio idioma, o bien ponerse en contacto con el Servicio Telefónico de Intérpretes ["TIS"], número 131 450, para pedir que le comuniquen con la Municipalidad, cuyo teléfono es 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Vietnamese</p> <p>Nếu quý vị không hiểu lá thư này và cần sự giúp đỡ, mời quý vị đến Trung Tâm Dịch Vụ Hướng Dẫn Khách Hàng của Hội Đồng Thành Phố (Council's Customer Service Centre) để có người nói ngôn ngữ của quý vị giúp hay quý vị có thể liên lạc Dịch Vụ Thông Dịch qua Điện Thoại (TIS) ở số 131 450 và yêu cầu họ liên lạc với Hội Đồng Thành Phố (Council) ở số 1300 722 542.</p>
<p>Polish</p> <p>Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu treści tego pisma, przyjdź do punktu obsługi klientów (Customer Service Centre) przy Radzie Miejskiej i poproś o pomoc w języku polskim, albo zadzwoń do Telefonicznego Biura Tłumaczy (Telephone Interpreter Service — TIS) pod numer 131 450 i poproś o skontaktowanie się z Radą Miejską (Council) pod numerem 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Indonesian</p> <p>Jika Anda memerlukan bantuan untuk memahami surat ini, silakan datang ke Pusat Pelayanan Pelanggan (Customer Service Centre) Pemerintah Kotamadya (Council) dan mintalah untuk bantuan dalam bahasa Anda, atau Anda dapat menghubungi Jasa Juru Bahasa Telepon (Telephone Interpreter Service - TIS) pada nomor 131 450 dan meminta supaya mereka menghubungi Pemerintah Kotamadya pada nomor 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Turkish</p> <p>Bu mektubu anlamak için yardima ihtiyaciniz varsa, lütfen Belediye'nin Müşteri Hizmetleri Merkezi'ne gelip kendi dilinizde yardım isteyiniz veya 131 450'den Telefonla Tercüme Servisi'ni (TIS) arayarak onlardan 1300 722 542 numaradan Belediye ile ilişkiye geçmelerini isteyiniz.</p>
<p>Hungarian</p> <p>Amennyiben a levél tartalmát nem érti és segítségre van szüksége, kérjük látogassa meg a Tanácsház Ügyfél Szolgálatát (Customer Service Centre), ahol magyar nyelven kaphat felvilágosítást, vagy hívja a Telefon Tolmás Szolgálatot (TIS) a 131 450 telefonszámon és kérje, hogy kapcsolják a Tanácsházat a 1300 722 542 telefonszámon.</p>	<p>Czech</p> <p>Jestliže potřebujete pomoc při porozumění tohoto dopisu, navštivte prosím naše Středisko služeb pro veřejnost (Council's Customer Service Centre) a požádejte o poskytnutí pomoci ve vaší řeči anebo zavolejte Telefonní tluumočnickou službu (TIS) na tel. číslo 131 450 a požádejte je, aby oni zavolali Městský úřad Randwick na tel. číslo 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Arabic</p> <p>إذا أردت مساعدة لفهم هذه الرسالة، نرجوك الحضور إلى مركز خدمة عملاء المجلس وأطلب المساعدة في لغتك، أو يُمكنك الاتصال بخدمة الترجمة الهاتفية (TIS) على هاتف رقم 131 450 وأطلب منهم الاتصال بالمجلس على رقم 1300 722 542.</p>
<p>Chinese</p> <p>如果你需要人幫助你了解這封信的內容，請來市政會顧客服務中心要求翻譯服務，或者與電話傳譯服務 (TIS) 聯係，號碼是 131 450。請他們幫助你打電話給市政會，號碼是 1300 722 542。</p>	<p>Russian</p> <p>Если Вам требуется помощь, чтобы разобраться в этом письме, то, пожалуйста, обратитесь в Муниципальный Центр Обслуживания Клиентов и попросите оказать Вам помощь на Вашем языке или же Вы можете позвонить в Телефонную Службу Переводчиков (TIS) по номеру 131 450 и попросить их связаться с Муниципалитетом по номеру 1300 722 542.</p>	<p>Serbian</p> <p>Ako vam treba pomoć da razumete ovo pismo, molimo vas da dođete do Centra za usluge mušterijama pri Opštini (Customer Service Centre) i zamolite ih da vam pomognu na vašem jeziku, ili možete nazvati Telefonsku prevodilačku službu (TIS) na 131 450 i zamolite ih da vas povežu sa Opštinom na 1300 722 542.</p>

- Council notes that Sydney Airport is currently carrying out essential maintenance work on the main north-south runway and associated taxiways until 31 December 2023. Council understands that the work can only be carried out during the airport's curfew, between 11pm and 6am, for a maximum of 70 nights. Council acknowledges that runway maintenance is essential and unavoidable, however the use of alternative runways, particularly the 3rd runway, during these maintenance nights have had adverse noise impacts on surrounding residents. Residents in La Perouse have complained that the use of the 3rd runway has resulted in residents being woken between 1-5 times a night on these random nights. Given that further repairs to the North South runway are planned in the next 2 years, this detrimental noise impact will continue for this extended period.
- Council notes that the [Guidelines for granting dispensation at Sydney Airport](#) list a range of criteria that constitutes the granting dispensation for regular curfew traffic. One of these "exceptional circumstances" is when "the main runway is not available because of maintenance or repairs of the runway, or other maintenance or repairs necessary for the safe operation of Sydney Airport". Given that dispensation is currently being approved on a 12 monthly basis, essential runway maintenance on the main curfew runway (that is, the North South runway) should be a key consideration as to how and when these dispensation approvals are made rather than purely for commercial purposes. This approach is in line with fundamental principles of the Long term Operating Plan which optimise flights over Botany Bay, manage aircraft noise, give respite to residents and balance environmental impacts. In this regard consideration should be given to balancing freight capacity between Kingsford Smith and Nancy Bird -Western Sydney Airport.
- Council is of the opinion that it is not acceptable that curfew dispensations beyond regular curfew flights should be granted approval to operate at this time given that these flights are intrusive to local residents. This is also exacerbated by the fact that residents are not receiving advanced warning of these maintenance works on the north south runway and hence higher impact out of curfew flight schedules. It is suggested that targeted notifications be provided to affected residents when maintenance works occur.

Given the issues raised above, Council does not support the extension of the curfew dispensation for commercial operators now that COVID is no longer an exceptional circumstance to justify additional curfew flights at Sydney Airport. Council requests that no further dispensation or extensions to dispensation be approved while the North South runway designation for out of curfew flights is undergoing maintenance works, or in periods when maintenance activities are scheduled to occur, given the significant night-time sleep disturbance impacts these flights are currently having on La Perouse and adjacent residents.

If you have any questions regarding this submission please contact David Ongkili, Coordinator Strategic Planning, on 02 9093 6793 or David.ongkili@randwick.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Kerry Kyriacou
Director City Planning