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Canberra Airport Master Plan

Canberra Airport's latest Master Plan has been finalised and is now available on the Canberra Airport website.

In approving the Master Plan Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Transport and Infrastructure the Hon Warren Truss said: "Canberra Airport boasts the nation's newest passenger terminal and the commencement of international flights as outlined in the 2014 Master Plan will be an important step in promoting the Canberra region as a jewel in the nation's tourism crown.

"Canberra Airport plays a significant role in the ACT economy, generating jobs, investment and tourism. Ongoing investment in the airport will provide benefits to the local, regional and national economies for many years to come," Mr Truss said.

Airport Managing Director Stephen Byron said the 2014 Master Plan set out the next steps in a vision started almost 17 years ago, when the Capital Airport Group set out to create the best small airport in the world.

"Much of the ensuing time has been devoted to developing a new airport befitting of the National Capital. Our previous master plans in 1999, 2005 and 2009 outlined the approach needed to achieve that and accordingly we have invested heavily in delivering a national infrastructure asset of which the Canberra Region community can be justly proud.

"This gateway to a region of some 900,000 people has unrivalled environmental credentials, iconic design features, world-class amenities, and passionate community support. This is what we said we would deliver and we have done it, notwithstanding the impacts of airline collapses, SARS, 9/11, the global financial crisis, volcanic ash plumes and a host of other potential deal-breakers along the way."

With the new terminal finished, internationally capable and ready to connect the Canberra Region directly with the rest of the world, Mr Byron said the focus of the new master plan was delivering a landmark transport hub incorporating air, rail and road transport.

"How this will benefit the 900,000 people living in the Capital Region cannot be underestimated and is not yet widely comprehended. Nor can it be realised until direct international flights are secured, and that is the main thrust of our efforts to drive aviation growth and optimise this important national asset. It is in Australia's national interest that its National Capital city is directly connected with Asia," Mr Byron said.

The Master Plan was prepared in accordance with the *Airports Act 1996*, and in consultation with the community and key airport stakeholders. It is available on the website at www.canberraairport.com.au/masterplan or in person during business hours at 1st Floor, 2 Brindabella Circuit, Brindabella Business Park.

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