CANBERRA AIRPORT HAS ALREADY ENGAGED WITH NINETY-THREE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS REPRESENTING THE BROAD REGION.
3 Consultation process

Canberra Airport is a local family-owned business with a strong commitment to the people of Canberra and the region.

The Airport is a critical driver in the local and regional economy approaching 900,000 people and local ownership provides a unique opportunity among major Australian airports to better integrate the Airport’s development and operation with local and regional priorities and community aspirations.

The Airport is progressing discussions with the ACT Government to refresh the 2010 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

This 2014 Master Plan sets a strategic direction for Canberra Airport for domestic and international aviation growth that is informed by, and consistent with, the needs of Airport users, governments, and regional priorities. This 2014 Master Plan reflects a comprehensive pre-consultation process which commenced in January 2013 with 95 key stakeholder groups to gather local and regional views including surrounding landowners and users. Further consultation to gauge reaction and opinion, specific to the Preliminary Draft 2014 Master Plan, was undertaken and commenced on Monday 17 March 2014, closing on Friday 13 June 2014, which was a total of the required 60 business days.

The consultation process, although required under the Airports Act, is ultimately to ensure options for this 2014 Master Plan were fully explored, concerns and impacts identified, and alternatives considered before the 2014 Draft Master Plan being lodged with the Minister.

In all thirty one submissions were received on the Preliminary 2014 Draft Master Plan. The submissions and other consultation feedback were reviewed, analysed, considered and given due regard in finalising the 2014 Master Plan.

3.1 ONGOING CONSULTATION

Specific consultation with respect to this 2014 Master Plan is only a small component of Canberra Airport’s consultation program. Canberra Airport has an extensive ongoing consultation programme with major stakeholders, including governments, politicians, community groups, and business groups, in order to communicate the Airport’s plans and their progress to stakeholders, and to gain a better understanding of stakeholders viewpoints, aspirations and perspectives.
Targeted consultation is also undertaken for major development projects, including those required by the *Airports Act*, as well as one-off key initiatives, such as the development of Canberra Airport’s *Ultimate Practical Capacity Australian Noise Exposure Forecast (ANEF)*, endorsed in June 2008; the Airport’s 2012-2014 contributions on HSR, light rail, and the second Sydney airport public debates.

### 3.1.1 CONSULTATION WITH THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

Canberra Airport consults regularly with various Australian Government departments and agencies with respect to ongoing and future development and operations at and in the vicinity of Canberra Airport.

Consultation comprises specific meetings between Canberra Airport, Australian, ACT and NSW Government politicians and departmental representatives on key issues as well as regular ongoing meetings. These include, but are not limited to:

- Development Planning Liaison Meetings with representatives from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, National Capital Authority, and Airservices Australia;
- Department of Environment meetings;
- Low Visibility Procedures Review Group dealing with proposed upgrades to instrument landing capabilities and associated aviation capability of the Airport, with representatives from the airlines, Airservices Australia, and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA);
- Canberra Airport Safety Committee dealing with on Airport safety issues, with representatives from Airservices Australia, Australian Federal Police, and Department of Defence;
- Canberra Airport Bird and Wildlife Management Committee dealing with bird and wildlife management, on and in the vicinity of Canberra Airport, with representatives from Airservices Australia, CASA, airlines, and Department of Defence;
- Canberra Airport Emergency Committee dealing with planning for and response to all types of emergency situations on or in the vicinity of Canberra Airport, with representatives from Airservices Australia, the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Department of Defence, ACT emergency agencies, the airlines, Australian Red Cross, fuel suppliers, and St John’s Ambulance;
Canberra Airport Security Consultative Group dealing with security issues, on and in the vicinity of the Airport, as well as in the community more generally, with representatives from Airservices Australia, the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, and Department of Defence;

Canberra Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group dealing with Airport aviation development, regional planning issues and aircraft noise impacts with representatives from the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Airservices Australia, Department of Defence, National Capital Authority, NSW Planning and Environment, Queanbeyan Council, the airlines, business, and peak community groups;

Planning Coordination Forum comprising senior members of the ACT Government, National Capital Authority, Airservices Australia, Queanbeyan City Council, NSW Department of Planning and Environment, Department of Defence and Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development;

Canberra Airport Integration Committee comprising senior ACT Government representatives; and

Canberra Airport is also represented on the Regional Airspace and Procedures Advisory Committee (RAPAC), dealing with airspace and aviation issues at and in the vicinity of Canberra Airport, chaired by CASA.

### 3.1.2 CONSULTATION WITH THE ACT GOVERNMENT

Canberra Airport recognises its key role to the ACT and region economy and the need to integrate into the local and regional development and infrastructure framework. The ACT and NSW Governments equally recognise the Airport’s key role as an economic and transport hub for the region.

Canberra Airport and the ACT Government are refreshing the 2010 MoU which recognises the Airport’s key role in the ACT and the need to safeguard the ongoing development and operation of the Airport.

As outlined in Chapter 4, Canberra Airport is recognised by, and operates within, the context of the Australian Government administered National Capital Plan and the ACT’s Territory Plan.
3.1.3 CONSULTATION WITH THE NSW GOVERNMENT

Whilst Canberra Airport is wholly located within the ACT, flight paths to and from Canberra Airport pass over NSW, including at low altitude. The issues of aircraft noise, airspace protection, and maintaining a residential-free corridor to and from Canberra Airport within NSW, are of critical importance to the ongoing unconstrained operations of Canberra Airport and its ability to fulfil its role in the national network of curfew free airports. Furthermore, surrounding areas of NSW are also critical for the provision of regional infrastructure including roads and public transport.

Canberra Airport services over 520,000 NSW residents (58 percent of the Airport’s catchment population) and is NSW’s only curfew free major airport. Gold Coast, Newcastle, and Sydney Airports have overnight curfews.

Consultation with the NSW Government includes regular meetings with the Department of Planning and Environment, and the Premier’s Office. Officials from the NSW Department of Planning and Environment also attend the Canberra Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group meetings and Planning Coordination Forum. NSW Police and Queanbeyan SES also attend the Airport Emergency Committee meetings.

3.1.4 CONSULTATION WITH THE QUEANBEYAN CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER REGIONAL COUNCILS

Queanbeyan, Palerang, and Yass Valley Councils (in NSW) are important Airport stakeholders, as is the South East Regional Organisation of Councils (SEROC) - the regional wide group of councils. Canberra Airport will continue to consult with the Councils and SEROC on a range of planning issues with particular emphasis on separating residential development from aircraft noise, in the context of protecting the Airport’s regulated airspace and more broadly on economic development opportunities for the region that will arise from the future growth and diversity of aviation in terms of freight and international passenger airline operations at Canberra Airport.

Representatives from Queanbeyan City Council regularly attend Canberra Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group meetings and the Planning Coordination Forum. Representatives from the Palerang Council and Yass Valley Council are also invited to attend the Community Aviation Consultation Group meetings and are included in all correspondence and meeting notes.
3.1.5 STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Aside from consulting with the various levels of Government, Canberra Airport regularly meets with other key Airport stakeholders, including but not limited to, airlines and aircraft operators, tenants both on Airport and in the surrounding area, and business and tourism groups.

Regular consultative forums involving Airport stakeholders include, but are not limited to:

- Canberra Airport Safety Committee, dealing with on Airport safety issues;
- Canberra Airport Bird and Wildlife Management Committee, dealing with bird and wildlife management on and in the vicinity of Canberra Airport;
- Canberra Airport Emergency Committee, dealing with planning for and response to all types of emergency situations on or in the vicinity of Canberra Airport;
- Canberra Airport Security Consultative Group, dealing with security issues on and in the vicinity of the Airport, as well as in the community more generally; and
- Canberra Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group, dealing with Aircraft noise, aviation development and regional planning issues.

Canberra Airport regularly consults with, and presents to, key business and industry organisations such as the Canberra Business Council, Regional Organisations of Councils, Australian Hotels Association (ACT), South Eastern Australian Transport Strategy Inc, and the ACT and Region Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

3.1.6 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Aside from the formal master planning public consultation process, Canberra Airport is committed to regularly consulting with the ACT and region community. This is manifested through regular presentations by Airport management to meetings of peak community organisations (such as the North Canberra Community Council and Tuggeranong Community Council) and other community and professional groups such as local Rotary and Lions Clubs and the Institute of Engineers.

Major airport developments at Canberra Airport are also subject to a formal public consultation process under the Airports Act provisions, as well as any minor variations to this 2014 Master Plan or any existing approved Major Development Plan.
Canberra Airport voluntarily conducted a separate and broad public consultation process as part of the Canberra Light Rail debate. This had never been undertaken before by an airport and proved valuable information in understanding community and stakeholder perspectives on Light Rail for Canberra, including connecting Canberra Airport to Canberra’s City Centre and Parliament House.

Ongoing consultation with the community on all relevant Airport related issues (not simply aircraft noise) is conducted through the Canberra Community Aviation Consultation Group, with meetings held three times a year. All peak community groups are represented, as well as a residents representative from neighbouring Pialligo. Community organisations invited to meetings are as follows:

- Belconnen Community Council;
- Fernleigh Park Community Association;
- Gungahlin Community Council;
- Inner South Canberra Community Council;
- Jerrabomberra Residents Association;
- North Canberra Community Council;
- Pialligo Residents Association;
- Ridgeway Community Group;
- Tuggeranong Community Council;
- Weston Creek Community Council; and
- Woden Valley Community Council.

3.2 DRAFT MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION

3.2.1 2014 DRAFT MASTER PLAN PRE-CONSULTATION

Specific pre-consultation meetings were undertaken with the Australian, ACT, and NSW Governments as well as key community and industry groups in the preparation of the Preliminary Draft 2014 Master Plan. The consultations covered the broad regional focus of Canberra Airport (approaching a population of 900,000).
Canberra Airport engaged with 95 stakeholder groups and individuals between 2013 and 2014 within Canberra and the broader region including consultations at Wagga Wagga, Goulburn, Moss Vale, Picton and Batemans Bay. Stakeholders included:

- Airport tenants and the airlines;
- Australian Government aviation and environment agencies;
- Peak community groups;
- ACT and NSW Governments, including environmental agencies;
- Regional councils;
- Business groups;
- Local, Australian Government, NSW and ACT members of parliament;
- Queanbeyan developers of greenfield land; and
- Greening Australia, National Botanical Gardens, and Friends of the Grasslands (ACT).

Major stakeholders and public meetings were undertaken on the Preliminary Draft 2014 Master Plan commencing 17 March to 13 June 2014, comprising 60 business days. Consultations included but were not be limited to:

- Community Aviation Consultation Group – May 2014;
- Canberra Airport Integration Committee – May and July 2014;
- Planning Coordination Forum – March and July 2014;
- Australian Government, NSW and ACT politicians – April to June 2014;
- Peak business and community organisations – April to June 2014;
- NSW Local Government- April to June 2014; and
- The public – May 2014.
3.3 CIRCULATION OF THE APPROVED MASTER PLAN

The preferred method of circulation for the approved Canberra Airport 2014 Master Plan will be via electronic copies provided to Airport staff, tenants, relevant external stakeholders, including Planning Coordination Forum members, the Community Aviation Consultation Group, and Government agencies.

Printed copies of the approved 2014 Master Plan will be available for purchase from Canberra Airport.

Canberra Airport’s Website will provide for download in full and in part.