

5 August 2009

Mr Nicholas Dowie
Director Planning Policy and Environment
Airports Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local
Government
GPO Box 594
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Dear Nick,

Safeguarding Aviation Infrastructure – Discussion Paper

We appreciate the opportunity to submit a comment on the “Safeguards for airports and the communities around them” discussion paper. Our comments align with the discussion paper points as follows:

Part A: Safeguards for Operations at Airports

Jandakot Airport Holdings (JAH) strongly supports the Government's initiative to safeguard airports from off-airport development. Most airports planned and built in rural areas decades ago are now being restricted by urban growth due to poor planning at a State level.

The need for a coordinated approach

Recognition of the social and economic importance of airports is crucial for the protection of these valuable infrastructure assets. A coordinated approach to off-airport land use planning and development controls, recognising the critical importance of this infrastructure, would secure the future of airports and the services which operate from them.

Examples of safeguard approaches

~~Public Safety Zones – If PSZs are introduced, they need to clearly relate to the public risk. A ‘one size fits all’ approach to PSZs will not be viable as each airport is different, has different surrounding topography, different operations, difference OLS etc. Public Safety Zones if introduced, will need to be site specific.~~

~~Safety Management Systems – Each airport has introduced its own SMS which is applied to on-airport activities. Application of off-airport safety needs to remain the responsibility of State and Local Government.~~