



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

Australian Transport Safety and Investigation Bodies Financial Sustainability Review

Terms of Reference

Version: 12

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Document Administration

Document Versioning Table

A summary of changes to this document.

Revision date	Version	Name	Summary of Changes
11/09/23	12	Final	Approved by Minister
24/07/23	11	Final Draft	Incorporating feedback from Transport Agencies
10/07/23	10	Transport Agencies Distribution	Version for distribution to the Transport Agencies subject to the Review (CASA, ATSB and AMSA).
07/07/23	09	Review Team	Version incorporating feedback received from central agencies.
04/07/23	08	Central Agencies	PM&C, Treasury and Finance feedback to provide clarity and consistent with Government decision for the review.
29/06/23	07	Minister's Office	Feedback from Minister's office.
01/06/23 to 23/06/23	03-06	Relevant areas within the Department	Versions incorporating feedback from internal stakeholders including Maritime and Shipping Branch, and Reducing Surface Transport Emissions Branch.

Document Endorsement and Approvals

The final version of this Terms of Reference has been endorsed by:

Name	Role	Version	Date
Richard Wood	First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services Division	11	31/07/2023

Document Location

The master electronic copy of this document will be stored under the Transport Agency Review at this link (TBC)

Supporting Project Documentation

Other project documents associated with this project

Document Type	Format	File Name	Document Repository	Link
Timeline	Excel	Timeline for Review	Review Planning and Work	



Terms of Reference

1.1 Purpose

The Australian Transport Safety and Investigation Bodies Financial Sustainability Review (the Review) will enable the Australian Government to ensure the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) and Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) are operationally fit-for-purpose and sustainably funded to carry out their responsibilities. The Review will also consider potential efficiencies and options for cost recovery.

1.2 Scope

The Review will consider and evaluate current operational and funding arrangements for CASA, ATSB and AMSA, then identify, report and make recommendations on:

- The extent to which agencies' operations and associated funding arrangements/mechanisms are fit for the purpose of discharging their legislative and regulatory responsibilities, and whether any changes should be considered by Government.
- Government and non-government funding sources of safety and investigation bodies, together with current and future funding requirements (based on the efficient cost of delivery), including in regard to any expected changes to each agency's operating environment.
- Assessment of options for Government and non-Government funding sources, including through cost recovery, and their likely sectoral impacts.
- Opportunities for operational efficiencies, and how they could be implemented, including whether opportunities exist to implement risk-based frameworks or scale operations to adapt to changing circumstances.
- Any legislative or regulatory amendments required as a consequence of other recommendations made.

The scope does not include analysis or assessment of legislation or regulations that pertain to agencies' operations. It is anticipated that its findings will complement and build on those of the Aviation White Paper, the Independent Review of Domestic Commercial Vessel Safety Legislation and Costs and Charging Arrangements, and previous reviews.

1.3 Governance

1.3.1 Role of the Reviewer

The Review will be conducted by a Reviewer with appropriate expertise in public sector financial, operations and governance to be appointed by The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (the Minister).

The Reviewer will be responsible for the delivery of the final report to Government by early 2024, including recommendations addressing the scope outlined above.

Secretariat support for the Review will be provided by the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department).



1.3.2 Consultation

CASA, ATSB and AMSA and relevant Commonwealth agencies including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Finance and the Treasury will be engaged throughout the Review. Where required, relevant stakeholder groups will also be consulted.

The Reviewer and the Department will also engage with the Minister's office to provide updates on the progress of the Review.

1.3.3 Implementation Plan

An implementation plan will be developed in close consultation with the Reviewer to ensure the Review's objectives are achieved. The plan will set out key milestones for each phase of the Review, encompassing regular monitoring, reporting and executive review of progress.

1.4 Timeframes

The draft interim report of the Review will be provided to the Department in November 2023, and a final report by early 2024 in time for consideration in the 2024-25 Budget Process.