



## Aviation White Paper – Terms of Reference

On behalf of our community, we submit that the terms of the White Paper need to be broadened to embrace the reality that a major industry needs to embrace the social licence to operate. This includes amelioration of the human impacts of that industry.

Unfortunately, the terms of reference appear to be skewed to economic benefits of aviation without considering the need to balance the community impacts of the operation of that industry.

We agree that the aviation industry is important to Australia, but consider it essential that the terms of reference be extended to include consideration of how the industry should address and minimise the health risks on the communities subject to being overflowed by commercial aircraft. These health consequences have been well researched and documented internationally.

We therefore urge that the terms of references be extended to include:

*Consideration and amelioration of the impacts on overflowed communities of the health and amenity impacts of air traffic over people's homes and gardens and the consequent health detriments.*

We are also seeking that the White Paper includes consideration of best practice decision-making processes, including review processes. In this context the paper should consider the roles of community consultation and appeals/review and ombudsman processes.

The current situation where the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman is employed by the organisations he reviews and is not given any powers to change decisions, but to merely make recommendations, is a travesty of justice. And it destroys public confidence in so called independent review.

While we recognise that Australia needs a viable aviation industry, this should not be at the cost of the human impact and therefore the terms of reference need to be extended and balanced.

The current proposal, is disproportionately focused on supporting the industry, and it reminds us of an earlier episode in our history, where the asbestos industry was supported by the government, without consideration of the health consequences. We trust you do not want to create an analogous situation and therefore urge you to extend the terms of reference to include full consideration of the documented health and human impacts of aviation and the necessary measures to ameliorate these.

**10 March 2023**

**Contact: Shelley Faubel, East Melbourne Group**

**Aircraft Committee**

**[faubelfamily@hotmail.com](mailto:faubelfamily@hotmail.com)**

**0403 922 301**