Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

# Communique

## Sydney Airport Air Traffic Control Working Group

The Sydney Airport Air Traffic Control Working Group met on 6 November 2026 to discuss Airservices Australia's (Airservices) implementation of the Sydney Airport Service Resilience Plan (Resilience Plan), operational matters relating to Sydney Airport air traffic control services and broader efforts to strengthen workforce capability, operational resilience and service delivery at Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport.

## Key messages

The Working Group welcomed the attendance the attendance of the Sydney Airport Air Traffic Control Independent Assurance Panel as guests who outlined the scope of their work and role in providing independent assurance and advice to the Minister on the implementation of Airservices' Resilience Plan.

The Working Group also welcomed the United Firefighters Union of Australia (UFUA) Aviation Branch as guests to participate in the discussion on the Working Group's request that Airservices explore changes to night-time shift operations. The Working Group noted Airservices' conclusion that this proposal was not sufficiently viable to implement, but welcomed Airservices' thorough consideration as a good example of the benefits of bringing together stakeholders to generate ideas collaboratively to support implementation of the Resilience Plan.

The Working Group received an update from Airservices on implementation of the Resilience Plan, including activities underway to strengthen workforce capability, support service delivery and enhance operational resilience at Sydney Airport. The Working Group welcomed Airservices' ongoing efforts to strengthen governance, implementation and reporting arrangements to support delivery of the Resilience Plan and monitor progress over time.

Members noted Airservices' willingness to consider stakeholder feedback as it continues to develop and refine its Resilience Plan. Members noted Airservices update on reporting processes and members welcomed a separate workshop to explore further opportunities to enhance transparency through sharing of operational performance information.

The Working Group reaffirmed its role as a forum for information sharing, stakeholder engagement and visibility of progress against the Resilience Plan. Members acknowledged the value of continued collaboration across government, industry, workforce and regulatory stakeholders in supporting improvements to Sydney Airport ATC.

Richard Wood, A/g Chair, First Assistant Secretary, International Aviation, Technology and Services
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