

Media release

The Royal Australian Air Force Review – Civil Aviation Access to Air Force Airfields

2011

Newcastle Airport acknowledges the release of the Royal Australian Air Force Review – Civil Aviation Access to Air Force Airfields discussion document by the Minister for Defence Stephen Smith MP.

Whilst the review has been designed to address matters across a range of airports throughout Australia it focuses heavily on the "The WLM Experience".

Newcastle Airport Limited (NAL) welcomes the opportunity to provide input into the recommendations provided in this report. The Airport will analyse the report detail against its growth strategy and Department of Defence approved Master Plan to identify any inconsistencies.

However, due to the nature of the review, and its sole focus on Defence, the review does not take into consideration the significant economic value and contribution that civil aviation can bring to regional Australia; as has been evident at Newcastle Airport in recent years.

The Airport's latest economic impact assessment report (conducted in 2008) confirmed Newcastle Airport's role as one of the region's key economic and employment hubs, contributing \$465.5 million annually to Hunter households and the Hunter economy. The report also estimated that Newcastle Airport supports a total of 3,278 jobs.

NAL encourages other stakeholders, such as airlines and airport tenants and leaseholders, to review the document and provide comment by 31 October 2011 relating to their current and future operations at Newcastle Airport, given the report's strategic importance.

Ends.



Further information

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Notes for the Editor:

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