



## Western Sydney Airport

# UPDATE

# COMMUNITY UPDATE



Paul Fletcher  
Minister for Urban Infrastructure

### A message from the Minister

Western Sydney Airport is on track to open in 2026. This is an exciting time for Western Sydney with significant investment in the region, including the Australian Government's investment of up to \$5.3 billion to build the airport, and the \$3.6 billion to upgrade the region's roads under the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan. This investment is critical to meet the needs of one of the fastest growing regions in Australia.

The new Government-owned company to build the airport, WSA Co, is setting up its office in Liverpool and is starting recruitment and tender processes for a number of services. With work on the airport site expected to begin next year, the Australian Government and WSA Co are forging ahead to deliver the airport.

The Prime Minister and I recently launched new modelling showing that Western Sydney Airport will deliver thousands more jobs than previously estimated. A significant number of jobs will result from flow-on effects, and during construction every direct job will support a further 2.5 indirect jobs further down the supply chain, resulting in 11,000 direct and indirect jobs throughout the construction phase. By 2031 – just five years after the airport opens – Western Sydney Airport will support around 28,000 direct and indirect full-time jobs both inside the airport and in surrounding areas.

In the past few months I've had the chance to speak to groups in the Blue Mountains, Camden, Luddenham, Liverpool and other parts of Western and South-western Sydney about the economic and job benefits that Western Sydney Airport will bring. It has been great to see the community and businesses coming together to discuss these important opportunities and to ensure that Western Sydney Airport is the best airport possible for Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains.



## Managing and protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage

The management of Aboriginal cultural sites and values continues to be an important part of the Western Sydney Airport project, including survey, recording and salvage programs. These sites provide a valuable and significant record of Aboriginal occupation, and a continuing cultural connection with the land.

Aboriginal stakeholders are being consulted on the best way to manage cultural heritage and will play an active role in survey and salvage programs and recording oral history. Significant sites, such as grinding grooves and a scarred tree, will be protected and managed within the environmental conservation zone of the airport site. Where cultural heritage cannot be preserved in place, or on the site, materials will be salvaged and recorded with the involvement of Aboriginal people. Long term management of salvaged materials will be determined in consultation with Aboriginal stakeholder groups.

An Aboriginal Stakeholder Forum was held on 25 October, with further forums planned to ensure Aboriginal voices are recognised and opinions are taken into account throughout the development process.

## WSACo Update

Since its establishment in August 2017, WSA Co has been busy building the capabilities of the company and recruiting the right leadership team to deliver Western Sydney Airport by 2026.

The company's head office will be located in the Liverpool CBD and open in the coming weeks. The Liverpool location places the company close to the airport site as well as the Councils, communities and businesses of Western Sydney.

Tender opportunities and job vacancies are being advertised on WSA Co's website with tenders for geotechnical investigation and land survey services already released to market. The company expects to release further tender opportunities to market in the coming months.

For more information on WSA Co including employment and business opportunities, visit [www.wsaco.com.au](http://www.wsaco.com.au).



# Jobs in Western Sydney

New modelling shows that Western Sydney Airport will support tens of thousands of jobs in Western Sydney. Not only will it bring direct jobs on the airport site, but the flow-on effect will support even more indirect jobs within the community.

During construction, the flow-on effect from a single direct job will create an extra 1.6 jobs to help deliver raw materials and provide support services to workers on the construction site. A further 0.9 jobs would be created when workers on site spend money in the surrounding areas.



Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Minister for Urban Infrastructure Paul Fletcher in Western Sydney, launching the *Western Sydney Airport Labour Market Analysis* report.

## Connections to the airport

Work is underway to connect Western Sydney Airport to Sydney's road infrastructure. Through the \$3.6 billion Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan, major road upgrades on 35 kilometres of The Northern Road and Bringelly Road are progressing, and construction of a new M12 motorway will link the M7 and The Northern Road.

The Australian and NSW Governments are also partnering on a joint Western Sydney Rail Needs Scoping Study to consider the best options for rail for both the airport and wider Western Sydney. This report is due to be released in the coming months.



## FOWSA Airport Tour

The Forum On Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA) has met for a second time. They visited Sydney Airport (including the Air Traffic Control Tower) to learn more about airport operations, and the complexities involved in airport development and flight path design. FOWSA's representatives come from across Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains and their role is to ensure the community has a voice during the development of Western Sydney Airport. To raise an issue you want discussed at FOWSA meetings, you can email [fowsa@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:fowsa@infrastructure.gov.au).

## Western Sydney Airport's airspace protected

Protecting immediate airspace around airports is essential to ensuring and maintaining a safe operating environment and to provide for future growth.

Western Sydney Airport's protected airspace, known as the Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS), was declared on 19 October 2017.

You will need to be aware of the OLS if you are planning certain developments on a property in proximity to the airport. An online tool is available at [www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au/airspace](http://www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au/airspace) where you can search your address to find out the height of the protected airspace above your property.

The OLS has been designed in strict accordance to international standards that are based on criteria such as runway direction and elevation; it is not an indicator of the design of future flight paths.

## Flight Paths

Designing and finalising flight paths is a large and complex task that has now started and will take several years to complete. The Airport Plan has a number of mandatory principles and conditions that flight paths must meet. For example, the Government has imposed the principle that there will be no single merge point over any single residential area. At each stage of the design process, flight paths must be tested against all the criteria of safety, efficiency, capacity and noise and environmental conditions.

The airspace planning and design process will involve ongoing community consultation, including through the Forum on Western Sydney Airport (FOWSA), with a focus on minimising flights over residential areas and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area where practicable.

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## Find out more



**[www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au](http://www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au)**



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