



# WESTERN SYDNEY AIRPORT community update



Warren Truss,  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister for  
Infrastructure and  
Regional Development

## A message from the Minister

We are making real progress towards an airport for Western Sydney. So far in 2015, we have begun a new environmental assessment, commenced major road upgrades and continued detailed planning for the proposed airport at Badgerys Creek.

An airport would be a generator of economic activity in Western Sydney—providing employment opportunities closer to where people in Western Sydney live. Those who have recently driven along Bringelly Road will have already seen the roadworks underway. Including the 400 jobs generated by the Bringelly Road upgrade alone, our \$3.6 billion Western Sydney roads package and proposed airport will create some 8,000 jobs during construction with tens of thousands more once an airport starts operating.

Community consultation is integral to the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and we will seek community input on a draft EIS, which I expect to occur later in 2015. This will be an opportunity for you to learn more about the project and to provide your views on the proposed airport's design and delivery.

Interest in an airport for Western Sydney continues to grow. With each new development, Western Sydney's communities, businesses and institutions continue to engage with the project and we come closer to realising the proposed airport's potential to contribute to the region's social and economic growth.

## Environmental assessment now underway

The Australian Government is conducting a robust and rigorous environmental assessment for the proposed Western Sydney airport at Badgerys Creek. This environmental assessment, which will include community consultation, has commenced.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will consider a range of factors, including the environmental, social and economic aspects of developing and operating an airport at Badgerys Creek.

Mitigation measures to minimise and manage the impacts of the proposed airport will also be considered in the environmental assessment.

Community consultation on the draft EIS is expected later in 2015. After taking the community's comments into account, the EIS will be finalised.

## Specialists working on site

Since February you may have noticed more activity at the proposed airport site. We will notify residents and businesses about the environmental assessment work that may affect them.

Our environmental specialists will have photo identification with them at all times and will present it if asked. For security purposes you can phone the site coordinator on 1800 810 680 to check if someone is meant to be there. Otherwise, please report anyone acting suspiciously to local police.

## Limiting aircraft noise

Operation of the proposed Western Sydney airport is likely to result in some areas being exposed to aircraft noise.

However, the New South Wales Government's long-standing planning restrictions around the Badgerys Creek site have largely protected the area from incompatible residential and urban development.

With the indicative airport layout, including a north-east/south-west runway alignment, it is likely that aircraft would mostly take off and land over the Western Sydney Employment Area, or to the south west of the site (see map on back page).

Current aircraft are much more fuel efficient and quieter than they used to be. For example, the noise footprint of the Boeing 787 is 60 per cent smaller than the models it is replacing.

The EIS will include aircraft noise modelling. This modelling will be informed by indicative flight paths and aircraft approach and departure paths currently being developed by Airservices Australia.

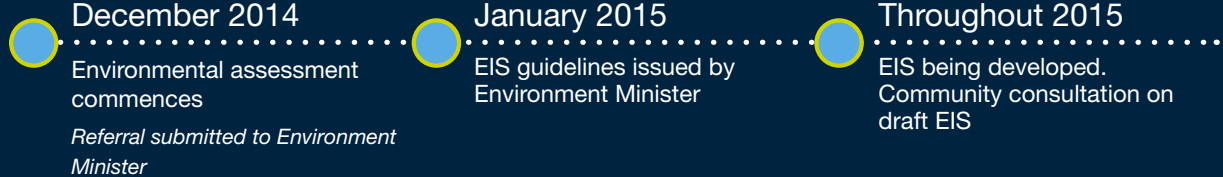
The indicative airport layout and flight paths will be released for public comment as part of the community consultation on the EIS.

## Assessing air and water quality

The EIS will consider likely impacts on air and water quality. This will include assessing flight paths and flight frequency.

New generation aircraft are quieter and cleaner than earlier models, and all aircraft operating in Australia are required to meet international emissions standards.

Airlines minimise costs of flying by using fuel as efficiently as possible, while modern navigation tools, such as satellite navigation technologies, help to deliver the best environmental and commercial outcomes.







## What could the proposed airport look like when it opens?

The development of an airport for Western Sydney is among the most impressive and exciting civil engineering projects of the next decade and beyond. With Western Sydney's population and economy set to grow substantially, an airport could be developed in stages to support this extraordinary regional transformation.

As the Government prepares the detailed plans for services to commence by the mid-2020s, it is possible to sketch out what a Western Sydney airport might look like.

For the first 20 years or so, the airport would only require one runway, large enough to handle a range of aircraft that might wish to operate from Western Sydney—both domestic and international services.

Quieter, more fuel-efficient aircraft, such as the Boeing 787 Dreamliner and Airbus' new A350, are opening up new routes for direct services rather than relying on the big hub airports.

All of Australia's current international gateways were designed for a past era and have been refitted to incorporate new technologies and to meet our changing expectations of airport facilities.

The terminal at Western Sydney could be designed to take account of how we will travel in the future. Initially, it will not need to be as large as Melbourne or Brisbane airports. We can expect the first year of a Western Sydney airport to be similar to the Gold Coast in passenger numbers. As airlines introduce new services, passenger numbers will grow and the terminal will grow too.

Before the first plane takes off, a world-class road transport network will be open to traffic. These major road upgrades will slash travel times for residents of Western Sydney and create thousands of jobs during construction.

More information about the Western Sydney Infrastructure Plan and major road construction currently underway can be found on the map on the back of this newsletter.

The advantage of a new airport is we can consider the kinds of features we would like to see in a modern airport. After all, this would be Australia's 21st century airport.

## Preserving the heritage of Badgerys Creek

The management of heritage places, including the relocation or preservation of heritage buildings, will be considered in the EIS. The EIS will identify potential measures to minimise any impacts on places and items of heritage value.

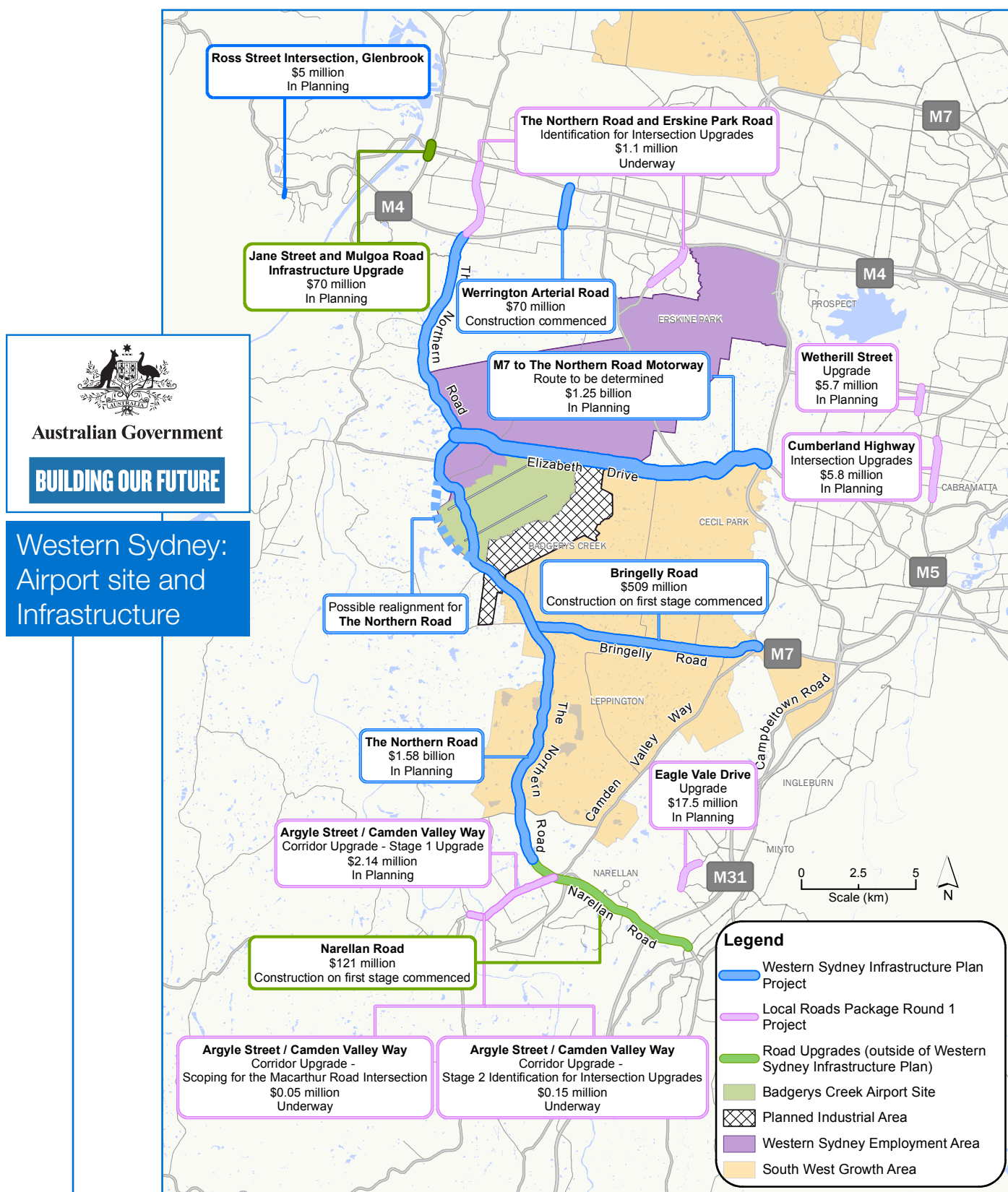
The Australian Government recognises the cultural and social importance of preserving Indigenous heritage. The EIS will include an archaeological survey programme which will engage with Indigenous community stakeholders. A statement of heritage impacts and the findings of the survey will be included in the environmental assessment.

## Did you know?

Contrails are the vapour trails which can occasionally be seen coming off aircraft during flight. Contrails are tiny water droplets and ice crystals that are formed when water vapour from an engine is released into cold conditions.

Sometimes contrails are mistaken for pollution or even aviation fuel being jettisoned from an aircraft. In fact, fuel jettisoning (or "fuel dumping") is extremely rare worldwide. There are no recorded instances of dumped aviation fuel reaching the ground in Australia.

To find out more about fuel dumping, visit our website: [www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au](http://www.westernsydneyairport.gov.au)



## Have your say

We would like to hear your views on the proposed airport for Western Sydney and will keep you informed about this process. There will be opportunities throughout 2015 to have your say. The community will have the opportunity to view the Western Sydney airport plans in detail and make a submission.

## Find out more



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



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