

LTOP IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING COMMITTEE

FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING NO. 163 – 29 March 2022

PRESENT: Terry Fulton – Airservices
Adrian Turner – Airservices
Timothy Gill – Airservices
Rory Delaney – Airservices
John Clarke – Representative of the Member for Bennelong
Bob Hayes – Community Representative for the North
Kevin Hill – Community Representative for the South
Ken Allcott – Sydney Airport
Nik Wahi – Department of Infrastructure
David McMahon – Department of Infrastructure
Rob Edney – Virgin Australia
Tony Williams – Representing the Member for Cook

APOLOGIES: Donna Marshall – Airservices
Maria Patrinos – Community Representative for the West

Item 1 **Chair opened the meeting 4:00PM.**

The Chair welcomed the committee, new attendees, and guests.

Item 2 **Agenda**

Was accepted and adopted with minor amendments to Item 4, add SACF Action item 05/03 (2022) Secretariat referred the Community Questions on Sodprops.

Item 3 **Minutes of Meeting 162, 23 November 2021**

Minutes were accepted.

Action 156/3 - Question from John Clarke as to whether the minutes could be kept on the Airservices website and accessible to IMC members. TG and TF working on it to find an appropriate place to store minutes/summaries/presentations etc. TG to go back and check with Kristy if SACF can host on their web.

Item 4 **SACF Action Items**

Action Item 01/03 (2018) – SACF request IMC to consider Mode 9 implementation and report back to SACF on the outcome of discussions.

On 24th September we circulated updated proposed agreement regarding Mode 9 arrivals and received no objections to the acceptance of that agreement. Minutes noted as this having been accepted in full text.

Proposed Agreement Regarding Mode 9 Arrivals From the North Implementation

IMC MEMBERS AGREE THAT:

1. *Members are not currently aware of any unresolvable impediments to the implementation of the “Mode 9 Jet Arrival Flight Path from the North”.*
2. ***It is expected that a suite of prerequisite, complementary and consequential changes to other flight paths directly supporting Mode 9 and permitting transitions between other runway modes will form part of its design.***
3. *The “Mode 9 Jet Arrival Flight Path from the North” (and associated flight path changes) should now be progressed towards implementation, in accordance with the 1997 LTOP Ministerial Direction, and other applicable legislative requirements, incorporating any further adjustments necessary to meet the detailed design of airspace arrangements subject to all applicable process, community, environmental and safety requirements and taking due consideration of operational and industry needs.*
4. *All Members who are aware of any “key elements” which require investigation and further decision by IMC should communicate this information to the Working Group for collation, consideration, and report back to IMC.*

Action 156/4: Mr Williams, Mr Edney and Rory to discuss out of session progress of Mode 9 and landing from North and report back to IMC.

Mr Williams suggested the development of a flight path is the appropriate thing for the working group to report back to the next IMC meeting with a specific suggestion. It is essential to be perceived as a benefit to all stakeholders.

This would not be a trial but a demonstration of what was possible. We have got aircraft during the curfew already flying this flight path and if we were to simply give operators the option of flying waypoint to waypoint, from existing waypoints, not designating altitude, not requiring RNP accuracy but allowing them to plug in 4 or 5 waypoints and fly a constant descent approach with their Flight Management System. They can say when they expect to arrive. They get priority and land at a designated time and the result would be reduced fuel, reduced activity by pilots and ATC. No change to what is currently occurring.

Mr Edney would need a concept plan from Airservices. We cannot have different aircraft flying different kind of procedures in the same airspace as this would never meet safety. Possibly something can be done on paper and get some concept approach plates to be able to achieve this. We need to go through a process of design, impact on other routes and a safety case.

Mr Williams advised we won't do anything without Airservices approval whether we have the option of radar vectoring or a direction from waypoint to waypoint. Happy for Rory to make the call on that. There are a number of hurdles that need to be overcome and if anyone has any concerns they can communicate this to Terry, Rob, Rory or Mr Williams and they will keep a list.

Action 163/4: Rory to progress out of session. Good way forward is to have an in person meeting. TF to organise a meeting between Rory, Tony Williams and Rob Edney.

Action Item 05/03 (2022) – Secretariat referred the Community Questions on Sodprops to the Implementation and Monitoring Committee (IMC) on 21 December 2021 for consideration.

These questions are listed below.

1. SACF minutes indicate Forum members strongly advocate the use of Sodprops. I would like to know if Forum members fully understand what the use of Sodprops means, especially in the sensitive late-night period in the hour before curfew, for residents affected by departures under 34L flightpaths (mode 9 and Sodprops).
2. Do Forum members understand how Sodprops actually works?
3. Have they sought feedback from members of the public affected by the use of Sodprops and have they familiarised themselves with the number of late-night departures that use 34L when Sodprops is operating?
4. Do they understand what it is like to not be able to go to sleep before 11pm, even if you have to get up at 5:30am for work, for up to 20 nights in a row?
5. In August, we had two sets of 7 consecutive nights of late-night noise with only one or two nights in between. This is the stressful, anxiety-building reality of Sodprops.

For questions 1 to 5, the Chair invited the SACF membership to provide responses from their own perspective. Through the Chair, John Clarke asked that this be referred to the IMC as the appropriate place. The SACF Chair agreed.

Mr Fulton stated we can quantify what the problem is, but we also need to go back to the SACF secretariat and see if we can redirect them through the NCIS process so that we can get their details. NCIS manages the administration of this, and we can't follow the process of the Ombudsman if they are anonymous.

Action 163/4.1: As a collective TG to find out the magnitude of the problem and then we can come up with some answers to respond to SACF and we can suggest if there is any specific information, we can direct to NCIS as an option.

Item 5 Operational Matters

5.1 Curfew Schedule - Amendment – update from Sydney Airport

Traffic has returned to high 700 movements without internationals. Expecting around 800 movements around Easter period. Overall traffic back around 70-80% pre covid.

Item 6 PBN (Performance Based Navigation) update

6.1 Airservices update on national implementation of PBN

Airservices continues to develop PBN at airports around Australia. Current work is focused on the implementation of new flight paths for Brisbane's parallel runway.

Mr Fulton advised there was no update to provide. Agreed to retain in the minutes.

Purpose of this item is to see what might be occurring around the country in terms of rollout and if it has some influence on Sydney.

Mr Hayes discussed the assumption if we do proceed to implement Mode 9 would we regard that as an RNP procedure, as we have constant descent approach segments, or would this be a PBN procedure? Rory stated that the PBN nature of the star won't change. Approaches may be RNP AR approaches and would see it happening all offshore and whether or not it's used to implement would have to see how it joins up.

Item 7 Aircraft Deviations

Adrian advised first movement cap last Friday. Movement monitors staffed since last Friday however traffic still moderate with a few peak days.

7.1 Maximum Movement Limit (Cap) and Exemptions.

At the previous meeting Mr Clarke discussed the movement numbers for November 2019 and would like to understand for those days where 80 is recorded under the 9:00 column (1, 15 & 29 Nov), what were the movement numbers in the "regulated hours" i.e. in each of the four x 15-minute rolling hours? This would be assisted by also having the numbers for the 3 x 60-minute periods (regulated hours) before and after the 9:00 to 10:00 clock hour. Were there any of the movements included that were not counted under the Act - e.g. emergency or state aircraft etc.?

Adrian Turner provided a Movement Cap Data presentation to review the November 2019 data as requested. where 80 movements were recorded in a clock hour and the breakdown into 'rolling hours' across the relevant times. Specifically looking at the 1st, 15th and 29th November 2019 and affected hours were Friday's 9am local on each of those days. Similar progressions of traffic around the same day and time. Exclusions seldom came up 1-3 across that time. They were random and sporadic and the range across the 6-hour period was between 8-15 exemptions which didn't seem to create a massive difference.

Mr Williams stated movement statistics have never excluded the aircraft movements which are exempt under the Demand Management Act. The numbers in the presentation are total movements and do these numbers exclude or include exempt movements?

Action 162/7.1 Clarification requested on whether the published data includes or excludes exempt movements that are not counted under the cap. Tim to take on notice.

Item 8 Review of Performance

8.1 Airservices Sydney Airport Operational Statistics Report

Tim Gill presented the dashboard on the Summary Reporting for LTOP, now made available on Aircraft in Your Neighbourhood. Refer attached:

<https://aircraftnoise.airservicesaustralia.com/2020/04/30/sydney-airport-operational-statistics/> and click the summary tab on the top left of the tool.

On the Summary LTOP charts sometimes see shortening or cutting corner by turbo props particularly if weather is bad. Tim has asked to have data reviewed 6 monthly to make sure we can get some insight and then will come back and report findings.

Tim advised anonymous noise complaint came through CAG, complaint related to runway use prior to curfew. Complaint needed to come back through NCIS. Looked at Sodprops use between 10-11 period and then first mode of priority reciprocal runway ops however there was no way to go back to the individual member.

Tim presented the Summary Mode Usage report which provides a breakdown of Mode 9 and Mode 10. ANEI report is up and running and up to date to 31 December 2021.

8.2 Sydney Aircraft Noise Information Report

8.3 Quarterly Cap report

Item 9 Gap Analysis – Objective and Status of LTOP Gap Analysis

Action 156/9: Airservices to continue working on the gap analysis as requested by Mr Hayes and provide to IMC as soon as it is available.

This action has been on hold pending the availability of additional resources to enable it to be given priority.

Further work on the Gap Analysis spreadsheet and report to be carried out by AA and discussed at the next meeting. In the meantime, Mr Williams to be consulted as necessary on aspects of LTOP.

Item 10 Airspace Design

Rory Delany provided an update DAP changes on 24/3/22. All editorial changes in this cycle. Notations used to express altitude restrictions has changed, instead of saying 'at' or 'above' 6000, they now state 6000 to say it must be at least 6000. Sydney SIDs, Stars and Approaches changed with this edit but no change in flight procedures.

Rory Delaney advised there is a very early proposal to have RNP AR approach available for curfew operations that would be the reciprocal of the 16R jet departure path. The Committee expressed unanimous support for the proposal.

Item 11 Department Update

Nik Wahi advised consultation process on how infringement notices for various events on airport land is coming up. Domestic recovery is starting to come back and a big increase in freight needs to be moved. There is still a little pressure on the system and we need to move away business as usual in the coming months and need to bring overnight freight back to the sustained system. We are looking at extending another 6 months until 20th October (summer schedule) to provide enough time to give operations to find a solution. We need to do a regulatory change to make this work and go to industry by the 20th October to consult and progress. This needs to be clear to industry it's not going further and have 6 months to reschedule their program.

Bob Hayes provided an update on the request for membership to ESG. Chair received a letter back from the Deputy Prime Minister at the time and couldn't see a good reason to add SACF Chair to ESG membership. The SACF Chair will write back to the new Deputy PM requesting he reconsider. Mr Hayes highlighted that the Chair or his nominee needs to be on the ESG for two reasons:

- Part of the LTOP Ministerial Direction states that *proposed changes to the elements of LTOP should be tested with the public through the Sydney Airport Community Forum before being implemented*. Membership of the ESG by the SACF Chair would allow possible changes to be directly communicated in advance for SACF consideration.
- LTOP applies to Sydney Airport (KSA) and its Associated Airspace (which is a 45NM radius circle of airspace around KSA). This Associated Airspace includes WSA. As the LTOP Ministerial Direction is a Legislative Instrument it takes precedence over the

WSA Plan (which is not). Therefore, there is a need to ensure that LTOP airspace and operations are not impacted by WSA airspace design and for the WSA airspace and operations to be integrated and coordinated within the LTOP Associated Airspace. Membership of the ESG by the SACF Chair would facilitate this integration and coordination.

There have been two attempts to get Chair of SACF as a member on the ESG, which oversees airspace design. Would like to have an early opportunity to have an input where relevant and early notification of any potential impacts on LTOP rather than airspace design to be advanced and rolled out as a consultation process. Nik Wahi has flagged with the relevant team and once they have something in concrete will do a presentation to SACF and IMC.

Item 12 Proposed Relocation of Sydney ATC to Melbourne - Aircraft Noise-related Risk Assessment and Management Plan by Airservices

Terry Fulton provided an update on proposed relocation of Sydney ATC to Melbourne. Airservices have engaged with ALARP, consultants who are working on an independent Safety, Hazid preliminary human factors assessment. Currently have held 3 sessions as a starting point to identify potential hazards relating to this move. Airservices have provided feedback on initial draft and currently in draft form. Additionally working on a preliminary human factors assessment on what the move could mean to operators, controllers and supervisors.

Terry Fulton has provided an initial briefing to CASA and continue to focus on providing regular updates, provide a design Safety case and provide an Implementation Safety case. Terry to provide an out of session briefing for those interested prior to our next IMC meeting.

Bob Hayes requested non-quantitative operational elements to be circulated before the next meeting.

Action 162/12: Next meeting Terry to present the report on the proposed relocation of Sydney ATC to Melbourne.

Next Meeting – TBC 2022

Meeting closed at 5:55 PM.

PUBLICATIONS OF NOTE (New Webpage – “Other Aviation Reporting”)

- 1. Sydney Airport Operational Statistics**
- 2. Movements at Australian Airports**
- 3. Movement Cap report Sydney Airport**
<http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/publications/reports-and-statistics/movement-cap-reports/>
- 4. Performance Reports Sydney Airport**

<http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/publications/reports-and-statistics/movements-at-australian-airports/>

5. Minister's Media Releases

<http://minister.infrastructure.gov.au/mccormack/releases/2019/>

Meeting/ Action Item	Action Item	Action Officer (Name)	Action Completed
156/3	If minutes could be kept on ASA website and accessible to IMC members. Agreed not to label minutes as final until accepted by the committee.	TG to reach out to Kristy at SACF and check if they can host on their web.	OPEN
156/4	ASA to review implementation of Mode 9 operations in conjunction with the gap analysis and report back to IMC. Rory to look at pdf document referring to mimicking curfew tracking for 34L arrivals during daytime Mode 9 operations.	Rory – Work In Progress	OPEN
156/8.2	Glenn to update links prior to next meeting. Community Engagement provided a guide to assist.	TF to follow up	CLOSED
156/9	ASA to continue working on gap analysis as requested by Mr Hayes and provide to IMC as soon as is available. Agreed to pause and take opportunity to identify other resources to upskill as a development opportunity.	Rory – Temporary pause	OPEN
157/4	Mr Williams, Mr Edney and Rory to discuss out of session progress of Mode 9 and landing from North and report back to IMC	Mr Williams/Mr Edney/Rory	OPEN
157/8.1	Mr Clarke raised that the consolidated report that had been produced up until January 2019 would appear to have been replaced by some information from the Aircraft in Your Neighbourhood website. However, this is difficult or impossible to find without a direct link, is in different locations and lacks the comprehensive and consolidated information in the previous report. His view was that it does not obviate the need for a comprehensive report	Airservices to follow up if it can produce the most current and up to date ANEI reports.	Closed and new action 158/8.2
157/8.3	Glenn to dig out statistics on the use of SODPROPS for September 2020 in response to Mr Clarke's request noting that it was used for only 5 days. Airservices reported that weather conditions allowed us to do SODPROPS 20% of the time. A reminder was sent to staff and we did have some constraints due to COVID		CLOSED

Meeting/ Action Item	Action Item	Action Officer (Name)	Action Completed
	protocols. Have relaxed a little now with staffing restrictions.		
158/8.2	Terry to follow up and provide an update to IMC on the ability to provide Operational Statistics Report and ANEIs. Mr Clarke requested a response within a week so that this can be included in his report at the forthcoming SACF meeting.	Terry Fulton	CLOSED
158/	<p>Terry to review the use of SODPROPS in January and what can we do to increase its use. Terry has subsequently had ASA examine this and has advised IMC members that he review 62 separate meteorological observations, along with the runway mode utilised. The results indicated that he could not find an occasion when SODPROPS could be used;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind conditions precluded use of SODPRPS approximately 70% of the time • Runway surface condition was not completely dry approximately 15% of the time • Cloud was observed below the acceptable minimum altitude approximately 35% of the time • Several instances of visibility below the acceptable minimum were observed. 	Terry Fulton	CLOSED
159/8.1	<p>Review page is suitable and should be available for each IMC meeting as an overview. This page is not available online and requires some time to produce, would like to request Airservices produce and make this available for future meetings. Mr Williams also requested the Sydney Airport Daily mode usage report is very useful and in graphic so it is easy to interpret. Request the last 3 years of data be made available to all IMC members or those interested to import.</p>	Tim Gill created Summary report	CLOSED
160/4	Terry to follow up and make sure we land this in the next couple of days. TF to touch base with Tim and Rory and put some words around this. TF to finalize and provide to John by cob Friday 24th September. Circulated update proposed agreement and received no objections, to be recorded as having accepted in full text.	Terry Fulton	CLOSED
160/10	Terry to follow up with Rory and work through to present a summary of what the changes are.	Terry Fulton	CLOSED
162/12	Next meeting Terry to present the report on the proposed relocation of Sydney ATC to Melbourne and what we have started the ball rolling	Terry Fulton	OPEN

Meeting/ Action Item	Action Item	Action Officer (Name)	Action Completed
162/7.1	Clarification requested on whether the published data includes or excludes exempt movements that are not counted under the cap.	Tim to take on notice for next meeting.	OPEN
162/7.2	IMC to provide a summary of our concerns and feedback to David Bell. Members to provide dot points for Airservices to collate and respond to Mr Bell.	TF and all members to provide dot points, collate and circulate. Need to get an assessment done first. TF sent to D Bell received summary and thanked us.	CLOSED
163/4	Rory to progress Mode 9 out of session. Good way forward is to have an in person meeting.	TF to organise a meeting between Rory, Tony Williams and Rob Edney.	OPEN
163/4.1	SACF Action Item 05/03 (2022) - Secretariat referred the Community Questions on Sodprops to the Implementation and Monitoring Committee (IMC) on 21 December 2021 for consideration.	As a collective Tim Gill to find out the magnitude of the problem and then we can come up with some answers to respond to SACF and we can suggest if there is any specific information, we can direct to NCIS as an option	OPEN