



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee  
Budget Estimates 2021-22  
Monday, 24 May 2021  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm.

The committee called:

- Divisions under the Corporate Matters, Transport, Infrastructure and Regional areas of the department.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- Department's advertising budget and tender process;
- Department's response to the Independent Review of the Leppington Triangle Acquisition;
- decision-making process into choosing destinations and regions for the TANS program;
- staffing levels and readiness of airlines to restart full international flight schedules;
- maintenance and upgrading of airstrips in remote communities;
- Department input into the fuel security package administered by the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources;
- aircraft noise exposure and abatement around Melbourne Airport;
- funding and timeline for infrastructure works in Northern Territory;
- various city and regional deals including Barkley, Darwin, Hobart, and Townsville;
- prospective casino licence for Christmas Island;
- housing of doctors on Cocos Keeling Islands;
- regional financial assistance grants;
- regional recovery partnerships; and
- administration of the Building Better Regions Fund.