

QANTASLINK ANNOUNCES OUTCOME OF HOBART, CANBERRA AND MILDURA BASE REVIEW

QantasLink has today announced it has made the difficult decision to close its pilot and cabin crew bases in Hobart, Canberra and Mildura in April 2026, while also supporting team members to continue living in these cities and commute to work.

This decision follows an extensive review and consultation period, which found that consolidating crew from these bases into major bases in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane would strengthen the resilience of QantasLink's operation, improve reliability for customers and set the airline up to grow services and frequencies across regional Australia.

This comes as QantasLink invests in an extensive fleet renewal program, including adding more Airbus A220 jets and Q400 turboprops to its fleet over the coming years.

Support for our people

The changes impact around 70 pilots and cabin crew, who will be offered a comprehensive support package to enable them and their families to remain living in Hobart, Canberra or Mildura, while working out of a major base.

Employees will be offered support for confirmed flights, an allowance to assist with things like accommodation and potential rostering support for a minimum of two years after the base closes.

Relocation support will be offered to those people who do not want to commute and would prefer to move closer to where they will be working from.

These details will be finalised as part of the ongoing consultation process.

Comments from QantasLink CEO Rachel Yangoyan:

“Consolidating our crew bases so we have more of our pilots and cabin crew flying out of our major airports will enable us to deliver a more reliable service for our customers. This will help us better respond to disruptions and improve reliability across our regional network.

“We have dozens of new aircraft joining the QantasLink fleet in the coming years and this decision will help us provide customers with opportunities to fly to more destinations and benefit from more frequencies across our regional network.

“Importantly, relocating these jobs to other bases will not impact any of our flying into Canberra, Hobart or Mildura.

“We know the decision will be disappointing to our pilots and cabin crew in these bases and we are putting in place a comprehensive package to support them continuing to maintain their family and life in their home city. This will include support for things like flights and accommodation so they can commute to work.”

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