

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2024 - 2025**

**Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

**Committee Question Number: 147**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ24-001346**

**Division/Agency Name: DIV - Domestic Aviation and Reform**

**Hansard Reference: Written (14 November 2024)**

**Topic: Australian Government leases**

**Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:**

1. Who makes decisions about general aviation businesses on site at our Federally leased sites?
2. Who is the regulator of Federally Leased Airports?
3. What role does the Department see itself in terms of the regulating federally leased airports?

**Answer:**

1. The relevant Airport Lessee Company for each federally leased airport makes decisions around subleasing arrangements with the respective tenant, including arrangements for general aviation businesses on the airport site. These commercial decisions are made in the context of requirements under the *Airports Act 1996* (the Act), associated regulations, and the airport lease for the respective airport site.
2. The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts regulates federally leased airports in line with requirements under the Act and associated regulations, and the airport lease for each airport. The department performs these regulatory functions in line with the *Statement of Expectations* and *Statement of Intent—Transport Regulation*.

The Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government is the decision-maker for a range of matters under the Act, including matters such as approving, or refusing to approve airport master plans and major development plans. The department provides advice to the Minister in relation to decisions under the Act.

3. Refer response to question 2.