

**Question on notice no. 48**

**Portfolio question number: SQ24-000059**

**2023-24 Additional estimates**

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts Portfolio**

**Senator Bridget McKenzie:** asked the Airservices Australia on 12 February 2024—

Senator McKENZIE: [...] I want to go to continuous descent trial. Why was it deferred until April 2024?

Mr Curran: Just one moment. I do think I have something on that. Senator, the continuous descent trial in Melbourne, I believe, is the one you are referring to; is that correct?

Senator McKENZIE: Yes. It was supposed to start in late 2023 and run until April 2024. Why has it been postponed?

Mr Curran: I don't know. I will have to take that on notice.

**Answer —**

Please find answer attached

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Additional Estimates 2023 - 2024**

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

**Committee Question Number: 48**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ24-000059**

**Division/Agency Name: Agency - Airservices Australia**

**Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 77 (12 February 2024)**

**Topic: Airservices – Continuous Descent Trial**

**Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:**

Senator MCKENZIE: [...] I want to go to continuous descent trial. Why was it deferred until April 2024?

Mr Curran: Just one moment. I do think I have something on that. Senator, the continuous descent trial in Melbourne, I believe, is the one you are referring to; is that correct?

Senator MCKENZIE: Yes. It was supposed to start in late 2023 and run until April 2024. Why has it been postponed?

Mr Curran: I don't know. I will have to take that on notice.

**Answer:**

The Melbourne Continuous Descent Operations (CDO) trial for North/South-East arrivals was initially planned to commence in late 2023, but was re-scheduled to run from March to July 2024.

The revised schedule was communicated to industry stakeholders, and the revised commencement date was published on Airservices' website for community information.

The trial was postponed due to competing priorities and time constraints relating to publishing of waypoint changes.