

**Question on notice no. 194**

**Portfolio question number: SQ25-002499**

**2025-26 Supplementary Budget estimates**

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

**Senator Susan McDonald:** asked the Airservices Australia on 1 December 2025—

Senator McDONALD: [...] What information do you have on curfews?

Mr Sharp: Those are a matter for the department and the minister. We don't have any responsibility for setting those policies.

Mr Curran: If I may, I believe you had a query around curfews at Townsville and Newcastle, and my understanding is that we provided that information to your office, which was that there is not a curfew at either of those locations.

Senator McDONALD: Well, there absolutely was a curfew last Thursday night. And for all the boarding school kids coming home who couldn't go back to their accommodation and had to find a motel room unsupervised-what could possibly go wrong?

Mr Curran: If I may just correct that-at Townsville there is no curfew. There is a civilian curfew, we understand, in Newcastle, but it might be better that we provide that in writing on notice just to make sure we get that exactly right.

Senator McDONALD: Thank you.

**Answer —**

Please see PDF attachment.

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025-2026**

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

**Committee Question Number: 194**

**Departmental Question Number: SQ25-002499**

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

**Hansard Reference: Spoken, Page No. 123 (01 December 2025)**

**Topic: AIRSERVICES - Curfew in Newcastle**

**Senator Susan McDonald asked:**

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Mr Sharp: Those are a matter for the department and the minister. We don't have any responsibility for setting those policies.

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Mr Curran: If I may just correct that—at Townsville there is no curfew. There is a civilian curfew, we understand, in Newcastle, but it might be better that we provide that in writing on notice just to make sure we get that exactly right.

Senator McDONALD: Thank you.

**Answer:**

Air traffic services (ATS) at both Townsville and Newcastle Airports are delivered by the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

At Townsville, ATS is provided between 0600-2200 daily. There is no curfew.

At Newcastle, ATS is provided between 0600-2200 daily. Civilian operations are limited to these times unless a dispensation is requested from the RAAF.