

Question on notice no. 353

Portfolio question number: SQ25-002683

2025-26 Supplementary Budget estimates

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

Senator Bridget McKenzie: asked the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts on 12 December 2025—

- (1. Has the Department undertaken any assessment of the cumulative loss of aviation land or hangar space at Moorabbin Airport?
2. Has the Department assessed whether current development patterns at Moorabbin Airport are consistent with the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee findings on General Aviation?

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: 353

Departmental Question Number: SQ25-002683

Division/Agency Name: DIV - Domestic Aviation and Reform

Hansard Reference: Written (12 December 2025)

Topic: Development patterns at Moorabbin Airport

Senator Bridget McKenzie asked:

1. Has the Department undertaken any assessment of the cumulative loss of aviation land or hangar space at Moorabbin Airport?
2. Has the Department assessed whether current development patterns at Moorabbin Airport are consistent with the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee findings on General Aviation?

Answer:

1. In 2023, when assessing the then draft Moorabbin Airport 2021 Master Plan, the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts considered the land proposed for different purposes in the context of the requirements of the *Airports Act 1996*, including section 81(3)(a):

‘the extent to which carrying out the plan would meet present and future requirements of civil aviation users of the airport, and other users of the airport, for services and facilities relating to the airport concerned.’
2. The department assesses draft major development plans to ensure compliance with the *Airports Act 1996*, the airport’s head lease, the current approved Master Plan, and other relevant legislative and regulatory requirements.

As outlined in response to Committee Question Number 353 (SQ25-002683) from the 2025-26 Supplementary Budget Estimates hearings, on 26 August 2024, the Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government wrote to all Airport Lessee Companies (ALCs) setting clear expectations of the Australian Government for airport master plans with Leased Federal Airports (LFAs). This included Moorabbin Airport Corporation (MAC).

Additionally, as outlined in the Aviation White Paper, on 17 December 2025, the Statement of Expectations for how the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts will fulfil its function as a regulator was made publicly available at

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/transport-strategy-policy/regulation-department>.