

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2012-13 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 7

**Question No:** 363

**Topic:** QANTAS cancels Sydney - Ayers Rock flights

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Scullion** asked:

What impact do you anticipate the recent changes to the QANTAS schedule of flights from Sydney to Ayers Rock is likely to have on the Ayers Rock Resort?

**Answer:**

In September 2012 Qantas reduced its services to Ayers Rock, suspending the direct flight from Perth and reducing the schedule from Cairns from twice daily to once daily. Subsequently Qantas has announced its intention to cease operating the daily service from Sydney to Ayers Rock. These services will be replaced by a Jetstar service from Sydney to Ayers Rock from 4 June 2013, operating four times weekly. Taking into account the slightly bigger aircraft operated by Jetstar these changes combined represent something of the order of a 35% reduction in available seat capacity to the destination. Virgin continues to also provide services to Ayers Rock.