



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2018-19
Tuesday, 22 May 2018
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.07am until 6.47pm.

The committee called:

- Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, including the Portfolio Coordination and Research Division and Aviation and Airports Division, as well as continuing an examination of the Infrastructure Investment Division; and
- agencies of the Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities portfolio, including Australian Maritime Safety Authority, Western Sydney Airport (WSA) Co Ltd, National Transport Commission, Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Airservices Australia and Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- numbers of Domestic Commercial Vessel fatalities in 2016 and 2017 by state;
- assessment process for applications for the Roads of Strategic Importance Initiative;
- update on a range of Infrastructure projects, including WestConnex, Princes Highway, Western Sydney Rail, Brisbane Metro, North-South Corridor and the Hobart Airport Roundabout;
- international travel undertaken by National Transport Commission senior leadership;
- work conducted by the department on the Sustainability Development Goals relevant to the portfolio, including with regard to passenger and freight volumes by motor transport, and the portion of the population living in cities that have implemented urban and regional development plans;
- research conducted by the department into long-term trends in aviation fares;
- methodology and financing of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau's MH370 investigation;
- Airservices Australia's acceptance of the recommendations made in the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman's report, Investigation into complaints about the introduction of new flight paths in Hobart;
- new fire station and safety case at Proserpine Airport;
- CASA's investigations of maintenance and equipment complaints; and
- noise monitoring around airports.

The committee will next meet at **9.00am** on Wednesday, 23 May in Committee Room 2R1.