

Your local team



Terri Butler MP



Hon Di Farmer MP



Cr Kara Cook

Hon Michael McCormack MP
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By email

22 October 2020

Dear Deputy Prime Minister,

Following the second runway opening at Brisbane Airport in July this year a number of our constituents, particularly from Hawthorne, Bulimba and Balmoral, have talked to us about increased aircraft noise.

We understand that the runway has opened and that the decision to build it was taken many years ago. However, we think it's only fair that our community is able to understand whether there are different choices that airlines, the Brisbane Airport Corporation, Airservices Australia, or the Australian government can make about the way the runway is used, that could make a difference to the noise.

A number of our constituents have expertise in aviation, and many of our constituents have made suggestions to us about measures that they believe could assist.

To collate these suggestions together, and to assess the extent of the concern in our community, we have established a petition and called for comments.

The petition provides as follows:

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Federal Member for Griffith

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Member for Bulimba

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Councillor for Morningside

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“We the undersigned call upon the Deputy Prime Minister to state, in non-technical terms, what options are available to reduce noise in our local suburbs following the commencement of operations of the second runway. We further call on the Deputy Prime Minister to implement any measures reasonably available to reduce noise, subject always to safety requirements.”

To date, 1658 people including 1,100 of our constituents have signed this petition. In addition, we have collated the various comments and suggestions and have consolidated them into a list. I have **enclosed** a copy of that list.

We would be grateful if you would:

- consider the foregoing petition and the enclosed list; and
- advise us, in non-technical terms, and in a consolidated manner, as to whether any or all of those suggestions, or any other options, could be adopted to reduce aircraft noise across our communities.

Though it goes without saying, to avoid any doubt let us state that safety must always remain paramount.

And of course, if there are options that would reduce noise from the original flight path – about which we have long been advocating – your consideration in that regard would be appreciated as well.

We are asking that you provide a response rather than referring us to other entities, because:

- we would like you to ensure that plain English, non-technical responses are provided;
- different agencies exercise different functions, and we would prefer a consolidated response; and
- most importantly, it is your government, not unelected agencies, that ultimately bears the responsibility for aviation in Australia.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Terri Butler MP
Shadow Minister for the
Environment and Water
Member for Griffith

Hon Di Farmer MP
Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women
and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic
and Family Violence
Member for Bulimba

Cr Kara Cook
Councillor for
Morningside Ward

Encl.