



**Sydney
Airport**

The right future.
Starting now.





5.0

**PUBLIC
CONSULTATION
AND COMMENT**

CHAPTER 5: PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND COMMENT



5.1 Statutory requirements

As required by the Airports Act and regulations, Sydney Airport undertook separate consultations while preparing the environment strategy section of the Master Plan.

Specifically:

- Following consultation with any relevant indigenous communities and organisations and any relevant Commonwealth or state body, Sydney Airport must specify within the strategy any areas within the airport site that are identified as being a site of indigenous significance
- Following consultation with state and federal conservation bodies, Sydney Airport must specify within the strategy any areas within the airport site that are environmentally significant
- The strategy must contain policies and targets for involvement of the local community and airport users in the development of any future strategy

5.2 Initial briefings and consultations

Sites of indigenous significance

When preparing the previous strategy, Sydney Airport consulted the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council (Metropolitan LALC). Advice received from the

Metropolitan LALC at the time referred to an Aboriginal archaeological survey of Sydney Airport carried out in 1991 and a subsequent cultural and natural heritage assessment of the airport site carried out in 2001 as part of the original airport privatisation process. The advice concluded that:

“...based on these previous assessments and the fact that the boundaries of the airport have not changed since this time, we are still of the opinion that the Sydney Airport study area does not have any potential for Aboriginal archaeological sites due to the high levels of disturbance by post-contact land use practices. Therefore we believe no further Aboriginal archaeological assessment/surveys of airport land are required.”

The Metropolitan LALC has again confirmed this advice. Consultation in relation to the minor boundary change within the embayment, adjacent to Runway 16R/34L, will continue during the planning period.

Environmentally significant areas

Before specifying the three environmentally significant areas (ESAs) shown in this strategy, Sydney Airport consulted the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, NSW Environment Protection Authority and Commonwealth Department of Sustainability,

Environment, Water, Population and Communities (now Department of the Environment).

As there has been no substantial change to Sydney Airport since the existing strategy was approved, and as no new relevant information is available, it is proposed that the same ESAs be identified in the new strategy.

Involvement of the local community

With respect to the involvement of the local community in the development of the strategy, Sydney Airport briefed and sought feedback from the Sydney Airport Community Forum (SACF) about issues its members believed should be addressed in the strategy. SACF comprises the following 26 members, 23 of whom are representatives of the local community:

- 4 community representatives representing areas to the north, south, east and west of the airport (one of whom is chair)
- Federal MPs for Lowe, Sydney, Kingsford Smith, Barton, Watson, North Sydney, Bennelong, Cook and Wentworth
- State MPs for Heffron, Marrickville, Sydney and Rockdale
- 6 local councils
- 1 person representing each of the international and domestic airline industries
- Sydney Airport CEO

A series of workshops was also held in March 2013. All key stakeholders were invited to attend these workshops and contribute to the development of the strategy prior to its public exhibition. The aims of the workshops were to:

- Provide an overview of the environmental legislation applicable to Sydney Airport and airport tenants
- Define the scope of the revised environment strategy
- Highlight the identified environmental impacts associated with Sydney Airport's operations
- Present information concerning the proposed environmental action plans (EAPs) that address each of the environmental aspects associated with the operation of Sydney Airport
- Seek feedback from stakeholders concerning the proposed EAPs and any issues they consider should be addressed in the five year environmental action plans

Workshops were held for the following stakeholders:

- NSW Government agencies, local government and members of parliament (or their representatives)
- Sydney Airport tenants, operators and relevant Australian Government agencies

Issues raised during the workshops were considered during the development of this strategy and are summarised in **Table 5.1**.

Sydney Airport also separately consulted state and federal members of parliament representing electorates and local councils in the vicinity of Sydney Airport.

5.3 Public exhibition period

As the strategy was part of the Preliminary Draft Master Plan (PDMP), it was publicly exhibited for comment simultaneously with the PDMP. Information concerning the community and stakeholder consultation and engagement process and a summary of the issues raised can be found in Chapter 1 of the Master Plan.

Table 5.1: Summary of issues raised during initial consultation

Stakeholder	Summary of issues raised
<p>Workshop 1</p> <p>Sydney Water</p> <p>Department of Premier and Cabinet</p> <p>Office of Environment and Heritage</p> <p>Sydney City Council</p> <p>Marrickville Council</p> <p>Randwick City Council</p> <p>Rockdale City Council</p> <p>Sydney Ports Corporation</p> <p>Leichhardt Municipal Council</p> <p>Department of Planning and Infrastructure</p> <p>Office of the Federal Member for North Sydney</p> <p>Office of the State Member for Maroubra</p> <p>Office of the Federal Member for Reid</p> <p>Botany Bay City Council</p> <p>Environment Protection Authority</p> <p>Sutherland Shire Council</p>	<p>Ground transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing/removing station access fee for cheaper rail travel Better terminal links, eg Skytrain Better transport options for shift workers Connected cycle ways for airport workers <p>Biodiversity and conservation management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively managing local habitats, particularly displacement of birds Fixed heights for planting trees due to habitat concerns Street landscaping in relation to height restrictions Sydney Airport wildlife working group participation opportunity <p>Water management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surface water management – urban run-off and stormwater management Botany Bay pollution reduction – water sampling to reduce pollution in bay Climate change flooding impacts <p>Spills response and hazardous materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident procedures to protect humans, wildlife and local waterways Components of the airport emergency plan following an incident Airline requirements to provide risk management plans manage and report incidents
<p>Workshop 2</p> <p>Australian Government Department of Infrastructure and Transport</p> <p>Bureau of Meteorology</p> <p>Virgin Australia</p> <p>Civil Aviation Safety Authority</p> <p>SNP Security</p> <p>Boral Recycling</p>	<p>Sustainability and environmental management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability plan providing holistic view of environment, economic and social factors for use as staff education by airport operators Sydney Airport annual environmental forum participation <p>Climate change and energy management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitigation and adaptation measures to reduce climate emissions Alternate fuels - infrastructure. Sydney Airport future plans to use trigen energy and possibility of airport tenants to use off-grid energy <p>Air quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fixed electrical units replacing APUs to reduce emissions and ground noise NSW Government Office of Environment and Heritage clean machine program to install non-road diesel engines in airport luggage trolleys <p>Soil and land management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historically contaminated land due to industrial activity Remediation system being installed under Joseph Plume to take jet fuel out of the ground Regular reporting to the Commonwealth regarding contamination <p>Ground transport</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional buses for staff Reduction of state access fee for rail Timetable changes for buses and trains to accommodate shift workers and passengers Plans for cycle ways around airport <p>Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage management plan Building 60 preservation possibilities <p>Spill response and hazardous materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Query effectiveness of incident response management