

# TEAM **SCHRINNER**

## KEEPING **BRISBANE** MOVING

6 February 2024

Professor Marcus Foth  
Chair  
Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance  
[contact@bfpca.org.au](mailto:contact@bfpca.org.au)

Dear Professor Foth,

I refer to your email to the Lord Mayor of 18 January 2024 about the BFPCA Local Government Election Report.

Thank you for offering Team Schrunner the opportunity to advise members of the Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance (BCFPA) of our position regarding the challenge of airport noise. It also allows us the opportunity to correct several inaccuracies present on your webpage.

The Lord Mayor has corresponded with residents on this matter on many previous occasions. As you are aware, flight paths and aircraft noise are outside Council's jurisdiction and fall within the responsibilities of the Federal Government and Airservices Australia.

However, it has always been our view that noise abatement measures must be taken seriously by Airservices Australia to achieve a balance between residential amenity and the important function of the aviation and tourism sectors in Brisbane's economy. One way to achieve this outcome, for example, is to maximise the number of flightpaths over Moreton Bay and away from the suburbs.

The Lord Mayor and local Councillors have actively advocated for the achievement of this balance when raising the matter with Federal MPs who actually have the responsibility for oversight of airport operations.

We do acknowledge that this matter is a complex one. I recall the former member for the Federal seat of Griffith, Kevin Rudd, made this issue a regular part of his re-election campaigns, yet was unable to resolve it, even as Prime Minister.

This brings me to a concern regarding the implication by other candidates, in particular the Queensland Greens, that local government will be able to achieve this result when the level of government that is actually responsible for this matter cannot.

As a former Greens electoral candidate yourself, I would hope you will hold your party's Lord Mayoral candidate to account for this. Of interest, the Green's Lord Mayoral candidate had seven years as a Councillor to address this matter but clearly did not see it as a priority. Of the 21 notifiable motions he moved in Council, most of which were of a city-wide nature, not one addressed the issue of airport noise. His sudden enthusiasm should be viewed with a degree of scepticism.

I will now address a number of other matters you have raised.

We do not support a curfew and flight cap. Such a proposal would simply compress flights into daylight hours and not recognise the economic and tourism demands of a growing city. We will, however, continue to advocate for an appropriate balance as mentioned above.

In relation to your calls for an independent review into aircraft noise complaints, I can assure you we were very supportive of Airservices Australia's decision last year to engage Trax International to conduct just such a review. After considering community feedback, the final version of this report was released last December and can be viewed at [www.airservicesaustralia.com](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com)

I am also pleased to reassure you there are no covenants over properties in the Bulimba Barracks site that would restrict future home buyers from making aircraft noise complaints. This will continue to be our position should we be fortunate enough to continue in Administration post-election. The implication on your website that we are somehow supportive of such a proposal is wrong and should be rectified.

I would also like to clarify our position on drone deliveries and air taxis which is not well represented on your website. While we view these ideas as exciting concepts worthy of future consideration, necessary regulation and proper oversight will be vital. No doubt the Federal Civil Aviation Safety Authority will have a key responsibility here. Community consultation will be an important part of any process should these ideas be progressed.

The Council of Mayors SEQ has previously announced that it entered into a non-binding MOU with one industry leader to assess the potential of this emerging technology in our region. The Lord Mayor has not, as you claim, "signed deals to roll out drone delivery and Air Taxi services across Brisbane...". This inaccurate and misleading claim should be removed.

Thank you again for providing us with the opportunity to clarify our position on this important matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Cr Krista Adams**  
Deputy Mayor  
Team Schrinner Spokesperson