



**ELIZABETH WATSON-BROWN MP**  
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR RYAN

18 April 2025

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

Dear Professor Foth,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Greens position on excessive aircraft noise in Brisbane.

I'm incredibly proud that together with the community, we've brought the fight against aircraft noise into the halls of power. We've introduced the Greens bill for a noise cap, curfew and more flights over the water into Parliament, secured the first-ever Senate inquiry into flight noise, and helped to build a growing movement here on the ground calling for change.

Because the inner Brisbane community voted Greens last election, we've put Labor and the LNP on notice for their continued inaction on flight noise, and secured changes to airport operations which will send hundreds more flights over the water rather than the homes of residents.

But the fight is far from over. Labor and the LNP have continuously blocked all real progress on the issue, and are instead choosing the profits of Brisbane Airport Corporation, Qantas and Virgin over the wellbeing of the people of Brisbane.

I know that it's incredibly frustrating that Labor and the LNP keep ignoring our common-sense asks like a cap, curfew and directing even more flights over the water. All we're demanding is the same type of noise regulation as Sydney Airport.

Change doesn't happen overnight, but the truth is that without the Greens, our fight for action on flight noise would have no voice in parliament.

### **Legislating a curfew, flight cap and long-term operating plan (LTOP)**

Along with my Greens colleagues Max Chandler-Mather and Stephen Bates, I [introduced a Bill to Parliament](#) for a Sydney-style flight cap, nighttime curfew and LTOP in 2023. Unfortunately, Labor and the LNP failed to support these reasonable proposals from the community – instead choosing the side of the aviation industry's profits over the wellbeing of the community.

Worse still, last year I brought another motion to simply *consider* a curfew at airports like Brisbane. Labor voted against it, and the LNP did not even bother to show up.

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We acknowledge and pay respects to their elders past and present. Sovereignty was never ceded.



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## Senate Inquiry & White Paper Recommendations

The Greens put forward a proposal for a Senate inquiry into the impact and mitigation of aircraft noise in February 2024, which was successful, and resulted in the recommendations your letter refers to. While the 21 recommendations the multi-partisan committee made did not go as far as we would like, they did at least represent a step in the right direction.

In January this year, my Greens colleagues and I [wrote to the Minister](#) expressing our support for all of the recommendations, and asking her and her Department to implement them as soon as possible. To date, we have not received a response.

The Australian Greens also [made a submission](#) to the Aviation Green Paper in late 2023 which was the basis for the eventual Aviation White Paper. While we were critical of the lack of action to address noise and pollution caused by the aviation industry in the paper - including a complete failure to mention high speed rail as a long-term alternative to air travel anywhere in the text - we are supportive of the recommendations to address aircraft noise that were contained in it.

Greens Senator Larissa Waters followed up the implementation of both the Senate inquiry and White Paper recommendations in the last round of Senate Estimates which you can view [here](#).

Thank you to you and BFPCA for your advocacy on this issue, and helping bring the issue to the forefront. We hope to continue to work with BFPCA and the community after the election to continue to keep this issue on the national agenda.

Warm regards,

Elizabeth Watson-Brown  
Federal MP for Ryan  
Greens spokesperson for Transport, Infrastructure and Sustainable Cities

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