

## PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA • THE SENATE SENATOR THE HON, BRIDGET McKENZIE

Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development Leader of the Nationals in the Senate Senator for Victoria

24 April 2025

Professor Marcus Foth Chair Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance PO Box 2031 NEW FARM QLD 4005

Via email: contact@bfpca.org.au

Dear Professor Foth Meway,

Thank you for your letter of 11 April 2025 regarding the position of the Liberal National Coalition regarding aircraft noise in Brisbane.

I have appreciated the opportunity to engage with you and your members over the past almost three years to explore solutions to reduce the impact of aircraft noise on Brisbane communities.

Please find attached a copy of the agreed Coalition statement on this important issue, as part of our plan for a stronger Australia.

Thank you once again for writing to me and I look forward to engaging with you further in coming years.

Yours sincerely,

Bridget McKenzie

## CCHQ 2025 LET'S GET AUSTRALIA BACK ON TRACK





24 April 2025

Professor Marcus Foth Chair Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance

Dear Professor Foth,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Coalition's views on the important issues facing your members. A response to your questions is attached.

Under Labor, Australia's economy is weak, inflation and interest rates have stayed too high for too long, housing is unaffordable, and our country is less safe.

Under Labor, Australians are paying on average 13% more for food, 18% more for rent, and over 30% more for power and gas and young Australians have seen their dream of home ownership slip away.

The Coalition will get Australia back on track by delivering:

- Strong economy with low inflation. We will rein in wasteful spending and reduce tax, red-tape and union control over small businesses.
- 2. <u>Cheaper energy</u>. We will ensure a balanced mix, including more renewables, more gas, and (in seven locations) replace retired coal plants with zero-emissions nuclear energy.
- 3. <u>Affordable homes</u>. We will fund critical infrastructure required for housing, assist first home buyers, restrict foreign investors, and rebalance Labor's record migration intake.
- 4. <u>Safer communities</u>. We will get tough on violent crime by non-citizens, boost our defence and border security, and improve online safety for children.
- 5. Quality healthcare. We will fund more GPs to address current shortages and increase bulk billing and the number of Medicare-subsidised mental health sessions.

Thank you for communicating our response to your members. Further information about the Coalition's election policies can be found at <a href="https://www.liberal.org.au/our-plan">www.liberal.org.au/our-plan</a>.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew Hirst Federal Director

## The Coalition's Response to the Brisbane Flight Path Community Alliance 2025 Federal Election Priorities

A Dutton Coalition Government will restore fairness, transparency and accountability in the management of aircraft noise.

The Coalition will take decisive action to faithfully implement the recommendations of the 2024 Senate Inquiry into the *Impact and Mitigation of Aircraft Noise*.

The Coalition have engaged with communities closely and listened to the concerns of residents living under Brisbane flight paths.

We have taken these concerns to the Parliament through Senate Estimates and the Coalition led Senate Inquiry, grilling senior managers of the aircraft noise regulator, Airservices Australia, on failing to consult and engage effectively with communities. And on failures to address noise complaints.

The Albanese Labor Government has ignored the concerns of communities impacted by aircraft noise, with Labor's Transport Minister Catherine King refusing respectful invitations to meet with community representatives or respond to genuine complaints.

The Senate Inquiry was chaired and led by the Coalition, received over 700 submissions, and provided an opportunity for residents and communities under flight paths to have their say and provide evidence of how aircraft noise impacts lives. The Inquiry also heard from industry stakeholders and aviation experts.

The Inquiry's recommendations were informed by the weight of evidence received and were supported by all participating Coalition Senators.

Under the Coalition, safety will remain the overriding priority for aviation policy. In addition, the Coalition will issue a statement of expectations to regulators Airservices Australia and the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, on strengthening measures to mitigate aircraft noise by implementing the Inquiry's recommendations.

We respect the role of community representatives on consultation forums and will empower the Aviation Industry Ombudsman to address aircraft noise complaints, prioritise residential noise avoidance, enable continuous descent and continuous ascent operations at all major airports to reduce noise by having planes climb more quickly, avoiding aircraft flying lower than needed, and investigate implementing higher tailwind take-off thresholds.

By implementing the Senate Inquiry recommendations we will continue to support the long term growth of Australia's aviation industry while also taking action to protect residents and communities.

Only the Coalition can deliver meaningful solutions for aircraft noise affected communities.