

15 December 2016

## AUSTRALIAN AVIATION ASSOCIATIONS FORUM MEETING *TAAAF Communiqué*

The Australian Aviation Associations Forum has written to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon. Darren Chester MP, asking that he engage directly with the industry, through the Forum, to development a National Aviation Policy.

Forum participants met in Canberra last week and have again highlighted the value of Government creating a new partnership with industry, as outlined in the Forum's 2016 aviation policy.

While welcoming recent wins for common sense, the Minister's response to TAAAF policies is disappointing given the years of policy neglect of the aviation portfolio.

Based on the Minister's response, TAAAF members feel that he has not adequately responded to TAAAF's 60 page policy document which was released in April 2016.

The problems are well known. Further reviews are neither actions nor outcomes. Solutions are required. Ministerial policy leadership is essential.

The task of changing the culture within CASA continues to represent a significant challenge. Despite Ministerial support, a positive Board and a new Director of Aviation Safety, some CASA officials continue to undermine progress and, as a result, the ASRR Report recommendations are, at best, only partially implemented two years on.

Industry needs Government leadership in a sector that promises significant growth and opportunity over the coming decade. We must move expeditiously to harmonise our regulatory environment with international best practice.

Australia is an outlier among aviation nations because of our refusal to adopt ICAO models or best regulatory practice from countries such as the US, NZ or Canada. Instead, we persevere with the implementation of regulations that are unique, costly and complex.

Governments of both persuasions have had consistent advice from industry regarding these issues and yet jobs and growth continue to be damaged by regulation and a policy vacuum.

The Forum calls yet again for the Minister to meet with TAAAF to agree on concrete, short-term actions to get the industry moving again.

The TAAAF Aviation Policy 2016 provides a wide range of realistic expert advice on aviation issues and TAAAF participants recommend the policies to the Government for further consultation and implementation.

The full TAAAF policies are available from TAAAF participant websites. The full list of TAAAF participants is attached.



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## TAAAF Participants

Honorary Chair - Mr Greg Russell
Aerial Application Association of Australia (AAAA)
Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association of Australia (AOPA)
Antique Aeroplane Association of Australia (AAAA)
Australian Aircraft Manufacturers (AAM)
Australian Association for Unmanned Systems (AAUS)
Australian Business Aviation Association (ABAA)
Australian Certified UAV Operators Inc (ACUO)
Australian Helicopter Industry Association (AHIA)
Australian Warbirds Association Limited (AWAL)
Australian Women Pilots Association (AWPA)
Aviation Innovation Network (AIN)
Aviation Law Association of Australia & New Zealand (AALANZ)
Aviation Maintenance Repair & Overhaul Business Association (AMROBA)
Flight Test Society of Australia (FTSA)
Recreational Aviation Australia (RaAus)
Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA)
Royal Federation of Aero Clubs of Australia (RFACA)