

**Submission  
No 31**

## **INQUIRY INTO REGIONAL AVIATION SERVICES**

**Organisation:** Orange Business Chamber

**Date received:** 14/03/2014

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NSW Parliament Legislative Council

Inquiry into Regional Aviation Services

The Orange Business Chamber would like to submit the following to the above inquiry for consideration.

#### Overview

Aerial Regular Public Transport is vital for economic development in regional NSW. Its value is spread over many disciplines including manufacturing, health, tourism, education, government, local government and general aviation services.

Regional centres, with surface transport outside a 2 hour one way time frame, are at a distinct disadvantage without RPT services.

#### 1. Costs

- Minimise access fees for regional flights
- Operator landing fees based on actual passenger numbers not aircraft type

#### 2. Financial Management

- “Hub & spoke” and “milk run” systems to be encouraged to allow travel from Regional airports both east & west.

#### 3. Economic Impact

- Consideration to flight timetables for regional business to travel to major centres for daytime meetings
- Subsidised tourist incentives
- Subsidised medical travel for low income earners both patient & carer
- Fixed operating licence terms – say 5 years then open to all bidders to encourage competition if numbers below 100,000 pa

#### 4. Potential Future Development

- Expansion of routes to include intrastate flights between major regional centres and possibly other capital cities
- Encourage aviation services to be provided at regional airports
- Dual use aircraft for both passenger & freight services

#### 5. Other Matters

- Scrapping of aircraft 20,000kg mandatory baggage screening for regions
- Baggage handling at Sydney Airport for connecting passengers to other flights