Camden Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group

Annual Report 2025

1. Introduction

During 2025, the Camden Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG) continued to provide an important platform for constructive engagement between the community, airport operators, governments, regulators and local business and tourism groups.

2. About the CACG

The Camen Airport CACG is convened by airport manager Aeria Management Group (AMG) and operates in accordance with the Commonwealth Government's CACG Guidelines.

The CACG:

- Enables community engagement with airport operators and businesses on airport planning, operations, developments and related impacts and opportunities
- Provides an advisory forum for the exchange of information and views on matters relating to Camden Airport between relevant stakeholders
- Contributes to a greater understanding and appreciation of airport operations
- Complements consultation requirements for airport Master Plans and Major Development Plans.

3. Meetings held during the year

Two CACG meetings were held in 2025, reflecting the relatively small size of the airport and its operations: 1 April 2025 and 17 November 2025.

4. Membership and participation in 2025

Deborah Palmer was appointed as the new Independent Chairperson of the CACG. Deborah is an independent engagement and governance specialist with extensive experience chairing statutory and community advisory committees for major infrastructure projects.

The CACG maintained broad representation from:

- Community members and residents
- Local, state and federal elected representatives
- Airservices Australia
- State authorities as required
- Camden Council
- AMG
- Airport operators
- Local tourism or business groups
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils and First Nations representatives.

The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (Department) no longer regularly attends CACG meetings.

Member survey

In April 2025, the Chairperson invited members to share feedback on CACG operations through a short survey. The results informed changes to the meeting structure and membership, including the need to increase broader community representation.

At the November meeting, the Chairperson tabled a community recruitment flyer for members to circulate through their respective networks to support stronger and more diverse community participation. Copies of the flyer were also posted at key community locations, including community noticeboards and libraries.

This proactive engagement resulted in two new community members being invited to join the CACG in 2026.

5. Key themes and issues discussed

5.1 Airport planning, infrastructure and development

Key updates included:

- Airfield security and wildlife management improvements and investments by AMG
- Airfield lighting and signage upgrades and investments by AMG
- Relocation and enhancement of the airport fuel site and services by AMG
- Power supply upgrade works by AMG to improve serviceability and reliability
- Leasing opportunities at the airport.

5.2 Airspace and flight path matters

Changes to flight paths and airspace related to the commencement of Western Sydney International Airport (WSI) were a major focus of discussion in 2025. Camden Airport operators indicated such changes would have ongoing safety, operational and economic impacts for general aviation.

AMG outlined its ongoing advocacy on behalf of airport operators to mitigate such impacts, including a proposed new flight corridor and flight training area.

5.3 Aviation operations, noise and community feedback

Airservices Australia provided updates on aircraft movements and noise complaints related to the airport. Aircraft noise complaints per month were equivalent to or lower than the three-year average.

5.4 Safety, security and emergency management

Safety and security discussions included:

- AMG initiatives to strengthen safety culture and awareness
- Foreign Object Debris (FOD) walks to remove debris from taxiways and runways
- Airport Safety Week activities hosted by AMG
- Security improvements at the airport, such as access-controlled gates

- Measures to reduce speeding on Aerodrome Road at the airport.

5.5 Community events and partnerships

AMG reported ongoing support for local organisations and initiatives, including renewed sponsorship of the Camden RSL ANZAC Day services and support for flight training camps at the airport.

5.6 Sustainability and environmental stewardship

Sustainability initiatives discussed included:

- Ongoing tree planting and revegetation activities at the airport
- Ongoing work with Camden Landcare to protect the airport's wombat population
- AMG's collaboration with University of Sydney students to develop proposals to support the transition of airports to net zero emissions
- Release of AMG's first Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan
- AMG's participation in the NSW Government's Camden Community Cabinet and advocacy for flood mitigation works on Macquarie Grove Road.

5.7 Updates from members

Updates and presentations included:

- In response to feedback received in the CACG members' survey, airport operators were invited to give presentations at meetings about their business and operations. At the November meeting, members heard from Curtis Aviation, a family-owned flight training business that trains about 50–60 students a year and employs 18 staff (including 12 flying instructors)
- Camden Council provided updates at meetings about council plans and strategies
- Community members highlighted the importance of recognising the airport's history and heritage.

6. AMG response to issues raised

Across 2025, AMG proactively responded to members' questions and concerns, including:

- Progressing safety enhancements and infrastructure upgrades at the airport
- Continuing discussions on heritage recognition initiatives
- Highlighting community concerns about speeding on Aerodrome Road with airport operators
- Advocating for airport operators and the community in relation to WSI-related impacts, including aircraft noise.

7. Engagement and communications activities

Engagement and communications activities included:

- Distribution and publication of CACG meeting minutes and presentations
- Conducting a member survey to improve the content and focus of meetings

- Community recruitment activities
- Briefings on WSI flight path and airspace design and related impacts.

8. Governance, transparency and reporting

In keeping with the CACG Guidelines:

- Members were given the opportunity to contribute to meeting agendas
- Agendas were distributed ahead of each meeting
- Minutes were circulated after each meeting
- Actions were tracked and updated
- Membership and participation were documented
- Minutes and presentations were published online.

9. Forward Program – 2026

Focus areas for 2026 include:

- WSI-related airspace and flight path implementation and impacts, for airport operators and the community
- Continued airport safety upgrades and initiatives
- Supporting heritage recognition initiatives, including recognition of the airport's founder
- Continuing to strengthen links between the airport and Camden community
- Continuing sustainability initiatives, including engagement with First Nations communities and decarbonisation
- Strengthening community representation on the CACG.

The next CACG meeting is scheduled for Monday 16 March 2026.

10. Meeting minutes

CACG meeting minutes and presentations are available on the AMG website: www.aeria.co/community/

Report prepared by:

Deborah Palmer

Independent Chairperson

February 2026