Bankstown Airport Community Aviation Consultation Group Meeting
Minutes – 9 March 2026

1. Attendees & Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting at 10am and gave an Acknowledgement of Country to the traditional owners of the land on which Bankstown Airport is located, the Darug people, and paid her respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Present	**Company/Organisation**
Deborah Palmer	Chair
Malia Corry	Minutes
Tom Smith	Aeria Management Group (AMG)
Sarah Wills	AMG
Peter Munro	AMG
Councillor Wendy Lindsay	City of Canterbury Bankstown (CBC)
Kyou Won Rhee	CBC
Thien Tong	Georges River Grammar
Wally Mehanna	Canterbury Bankstown Chamber of Commerce (CBCC)
Tony Luck	Padstow Rotary
Anders Hallgren	Western Sydney University (WSU)
Kate Stevens	WSU
Andrew Young	University of NSW
Ian Stenning	Community Member
Wendy Stenning	Community Member
Amelia Crocker	Community Member
Phil Shortus	Community Member
Trudy Healey	Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council (GLALC)
Daliah Aggrey-Fynn	GLALC

Apologies: Airservices Australia (ASA).

2. Opening

- The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the first meeting of 2026. In particular, the Chair welcomed four new community representatives – Amelia, Ian, Wendy and Phil – and noted the importance of increasing community representation on the CACG. The Chair thanked existing members for their assistance in helping to recruit new community members, with particular mention to Tony Luck.
- The Chair ran through the agenda and invited questions.
- All attendees – in person and online - introduced themselves.
- Actions arising:
    - Department's update on the implementation of the National Airports Safeguarding Framework was carried over.
    - The runway upgrade working group is expected to be established in Q2 2026. A further update will be provided at the June meeting.

- The draft 2027 Bankstown Airport Master Plan is in the early stages of development. AMG will provide an update at this meeting and then a further detailed update at the June CACG meeting or at a special meeting of the CACG, when development of the draft Master Plan has progressed.

3. AMG presentations and updates

AMG and Community

- Several new staff have joined the AMG team, with members filling rolls across aviation operations and infrastructure.
- AMG was proud to support two International Women's Day events:
  - Fundraiser for the Revesby Women's Shelter
  - 'Women in Leadership' dinner organised by the CBCC
- AMG is also organising a staff clothing drive for 'Dress for Success', a not-for-profit organisation that helps female jobseekers become 'job ready' through training and providing work clothing.

Advocacy and sustainability

- AMG met with the office of NSW Minister for Transport John Graham to advocate for better public transport for the precinct, including extending the Metro from Bankstown to Liverpool via the airport and improved bus services.
- AMG is working with airport operators to mitigate operational and economic impacts related to the commencement of Western Sydney International Airport (WSI) in July 2026. This includes working with UNSW Aviation to apply for the establishment of a new danger area to facilitate flight training and joining operators in opposing ASA's proposed implementation of a slot management system for flight departures.
- AMG also continues to support the proposed Southeast VFR Flight Corridor, which would mitigate WSI impacts for flight training schools. Further community and industry consultation on the CASA proposal is planned for April. AMG will share details of upcoming consultation with CACG members.
- AMG has a new Environment and Sustainability Policy that includes its commitments to achieve net zero (scope 1 and 2) emissions by 2030, embedding sustainable practices within decision-making processes and ongoing achievements under its Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan.

Developments and leasing opportunities

General aviation (GA) leasing opportunities:

- AMG has completed the construction of a new GA hangar at 26 Miles Street, which features on-site parking, office and lounge spaces.
- Multiple new and refurbished GA hangars are available for leasing, with flexible designs and sizes to suit a range of businesses and budgets.

See https://aeria.co/leasing/ for more information.

Birdwood Road Mixed-Use Development

- Construction of the approved Major Development Plan is expected to start in mid-2026 and take about 12 to 18 months to complete. The development includes a new childcare centre, retail shops, offices and warehouses and will make a significant contribution to the local economy and employment.

Altitude Gateway developments

- Construction is nearing completion on a new mixed-use development in the south of the airport precinct that will support the community, industry and retailers. Development includes warehouses, light industrial units, retail shops, offices, a childcare centre and padel ball centre that will open in April.
- AMG noted that the Southwest Sydney is a fast-growing region for families with young children, generating significant demand for childcare facilities. AMG has responded to this demand by making a significant investment in childcare facilities across the precinct, including the new childcare centre in the Altitude Gateway development and upcoming new childcare centre in the Birdwood Road development.

Tower Road and Henry Lawson Drive development

- The development on the corner of Tower Road and Henry Lawson Drive is progressing quickly and initial operations

are scheduled to start in mid-2026. The development includes a 7-Eleven, Guzman y Gomez and other public facilities to be announced in coming months.

Infrastructure works and upgrades

Airside infrastructure upgrades

- New line markings on the main helipad and taxiways started last month and will continue into March.
- AMG continues to upgrade the airfield, following major taxiway upgrades in 2024 and runway resurfacing in 2025 – to enhance runway safety, durability and performance. AMG will commence works in April to apply a protective coating to the Centre and Southern runways to improve water runoff and friction for aircraft. The program is expected roll out after Easter, in consultation with airport operators.

Airport development plans

Merit Assessment – South Tower Road development

- AMG will shortly commence a Merit Assessment process for the proposed development of two buildings on the western side of the airport, to replace ageing infrastructure with modern facilities. The proposed development includes a new aviation-industrial building, warehousing, loading docks, parking and landscaping. Official public consultation with key stakeholders will commence shortly with all feedback considered as part of the merit assessment.

2027 Bankstown Airport Master Plan

- Bankstown Airport is required to renew its Master Plan every eight years, setting out future operations and plans for the airport over the following 20 years. The Master Plan includes a range of topics, such as aviation forecasts, development plans, traffic, transport and environment and sustainability. The 2027 draft Master Plan will be subject to extensive community engagement and consultation, including a 60-businss day public exhibition period in about September 2026. A further briefing is expected to be provided at the June CACG meeting or at a special CACG meeting. The current 2019 Bankstown Airport Master Plan is available to view on the AMG website.
- GLALC asked if the Master Plan operated for eight years. AMG responded that the Master Plan has a 20-year outlook but needs to be renewed every 8 years. AMG will meet with GLALC as part of their consultation. GLALC responded that they looked forward to being part of upcoming consultations.

Northern Precinct Major Development Plan (MDP)

- Proposed development of unused and underutilised land in the airport's north, to deliver commercial, economic and employment opportunities and meet the needs of businesses in Southwest Sydney. Community engagement and consultation is expected to take place in about September 2026, concurrent with the draft Master Plan consultation. More details will be provided at the June meeting.

Industry news and updates

Flying Considerately Guidance (FCG)

- The Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (Department) has proposed voluntary operational measures for pilots and aircraft operators to follow to minimise aircraft noise impacts on residents. Public consultation on the draft guidance closed on 3 March.
- AMG already has a voluntary 'Fly Neighbourly' Code of Conduct with airport operators to help minimise aircraft noise impacts on residents. While aircraft noise at an airport is inevitable – particularly for essential operations, such as emergency and aeromedical services – AMG works with airport operators and community to mitigate and manage noise impacts as much as possible. The Fly Neighbourly code includes operational hour restrictions on circuit training and measures regarding aircraft engine revs and rate of climb. AMG also responds directly to community complaints and queries and supports the development of emerging electrical- and hydrogen-powered aircraft, which will significantly reduce aircraft noise and carbon emissions. AMG will shortly commence a review of its Fly Neighbourly Code, with reference to the Department's FCG. AMG will seek CACG feedback about its Fly Neighbourly code at future meetings.
- A question was asked about aircraft noise complaint management. AMG noted that ASA is responsible for managing aircraft noise complaints relating to airborne aircraft. A link to ASA's noise information and complaint

service is published on AMG's website. AMG noted that noise complaints for Bankstown Airport remain below three-year average levels. A member asked about complaints relating to aircraft over Wentworth Falls and AMG replied that ASA is best placed to speak to any such complaints. Complaints from residents in the Blue Mountains are unusual as only a small number of Bankstown Airport flights go over the area and most relate to emergency services.

ASA normally presents information to the CACG about flight movements and noise complaints. As they were unable to attend the March CACG, AMG will ask ASA to share information about movements and complaints for the relevant period. It was noted that ASA also has good information about complaint management on its website.

4. Airport Operator – Georges River Grammar (GRG)

An overview about GRG was provided by Business Operations Manager Thien Tong.

- GRG is the only school in Australia that is located on Federal airport land.
- Mr Tong oversees all operations for the school.
- GRG was established in 1984 by Father Tony Wood and Father Arthur Rossiter at St Paul's Anglican Church in Bankstown. Through a joint venture with the local Uniting Church, Bankstown Grammar School was formed. The school later relocated to Georges Hall campus in 1989 and was named as Georges River Grammar in 2011
- GRG is co-educational and caters for students from kindergarten through to Year 12. There are currently 930 students and 130 staff, one of whom is a former student.
- 2025 saw GRG achieve its best HSC results to date, ranking 85th for schools in NSW.
- GRG continues to undertake site developments, including a multipurpose auditorium, revamping sporting fields, installing a bus bay along Link Road, a new drop-off area and a future junior school development.
- GRG has an open day for prospective students on Saturday 14 March, between 9am to 1pm. There is high demand for student places and GRG has a healthy waitlist.
- A question was asked about the potential impact of the new drop-off area on traffic. Mr Tong acknowledged the school's impact on local traffic, particularly during school drop-off and pick-up periods. To manage this, GRG issues regular reminders to parents and deploys staff to provide traffic control. GRG also maintains close communication with the Georges Hall IGA to address the inconvenience faced by shoppers, with some school parents parking in the supermarket car park. A CACG member noted that residents currently avoid the area during peaks periods and alternate arrangements would be good. GRG confirmed that they will continue to look at what can be done to mitigate traffic impacts.
- The Chair thanked Mr Tong for the presentation. The CACG was encouraged to provide the Chair with suggestions for future operator presentations.

5. Updates from local council and other MPs

CBC provided the following update:

- Bankstown Metro precinct: There is a new north-south walkway connecting the new Metro station to existing railway stations. While Metro services are not scheduled to start until the third quarter of 2026, related public domain changes will be accessible sooner.
- Bankstown Hospital: The NSW Government released the concept design for the new hospital in late 2025. The project will be delivered in stages and include an emergency department and car parking.

6. Other attendee updates and general business

Western Sydney University (WSU) provided the following update:

- The Australian Air Mobility Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) is an industry-led research centre investigating Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) as a means of providing aviation services, particularly in regional and remote locations. The CRC includes around 20 industry partners, including AMG and several airport operators such as The Royal Flying Doctor Service, AMSL Aero and Quickstep.
- One of the CRC's primary objectives is to build and enhance the ecosystem for new types of technology, starting with vertical take-off and landing aircraft. Such aircraft will eventually become autonomous and deliver vital supplies to remote areas.
- Together with industry partners, the CRC is bidding in the next round of the CRC Program, which closes on 29 April.

- AAM will provide essential public services, such as coastal surveillance and aeromedical services.
- A CACG member spoke about PolAir's use of drones to address youth crime in Moree as another real-life example of AAM in action.
- An invitation was extended from WSU for members of the CACG to visit the CRC's labs in Westmead and find out more about what they do.

AMG noted it is part of the CRC and that several airport operators contribute to the ongoing development of AAM technology, including AMSL Aero's work on hydrogen-powered aircraft and Toll Aviation's use of drones in emergency services.

Tony Luck thanked AMG for sponsoring Padstow Rotary's Emergency Services Awards Night on 24 March 2026. The awards recognise the great work done by emergency services in the area, including airport operators such as PolAir, CareFlight and Toll Aviation.

7. Meeting close

- The Chair thanked all presenters and new members.
- Members were invited to contact the Chair or AMG with any topics or issues they would like included in future meetings.

8. Next meeting

- Next meeting of the Bankstown Airport CACG to be held on Monday 15 June 2026.

9. Meeting close and lunch.

ACTION ITEMS

Item	Meeting arising	Action	Responsibility	Status
National Airports Safeguarding Framework	November 2024	Department to update the CACG about recommendations for further action in the implementation of the NASF	Department	Open
Runway upgrade working group	November 2025	Establish a small working group to discuss options that would enable larger aircraft to use Bankstown Airport	AMG	Open
Draft Master Plan	November 2025	Present the draft Master Plan to CACG	AMG	Open
Southeast VFR Flight Corridor	March 2026	Provide CACG with details of upcoming consultation	AMG/ Chair	Open
MDP – Northern Precinct	March 2026	Provide CACG with more information about the proposed development when consultation begins	AMG	Open
Fly Neighbourly Code of Conduct	March 2026	Seek CACG feedback at a future meeting on the voluntary Code of Conduct	AMG	Open
ASA Reporting	March 2026	Ask ASA to provide noise complaints and flight movements reporting for the previous period	AMG/ Chair	Open