

STATEMENT FROM PARAFIELD AIRPORT 06/03/19

Parafield Airport is required to prepare a Master Plan every eight years – this was previously every five years. Parafield Airport’s most recent Master Plan was approved in 2018 and provides a snapshot of what Parafield Airport might look like in up to 20 years’ time.

The development of a Master Plan involves significant consultation with the community and is something we have always worked hard to do through a thorough and fully transparent public process – where any member of the public can participate. In addition, outside of the Master Plan process, the airport always remains available to talk to the community about current operations and future plans.

Presently, Parafield Airport records 235,000 flights a year, which is 38,000 fewer movements than were predicted five years ago in the previous Master Plan. The latest Master Plan is forecasting movement increases, but less movements than the previously approved Master Plan. The forward forecasts predict 21% fewer flight movements each year over the next 20 years than we forecast five years ago.

As a training airport, many of these flights are for training purposes. Importantly, we encourage our aviation tenants to adopt the Parafield Airport Fly Friendly Program to minimise the impact of aircraft operations on the surrounding community. The voluntary program includes restrictions on flights at certain hours early in the morning and late at night, as well as on certain days of the year when flight schools undertake not to fly.

As a major employer and economic contributor to the northern region, Parafield Airport is very mindful of its relationship with the local community and takes issues such as aircraft noise very seriously.

We understand that aircraft noise is a concern for some in our community and through mechanisms like our Community Consultation Committee we raise specific concerns to Federal authorities, such as CASA and Airservices Australia, which operate air traffic control and make decisions on setting flightpaths and aircraft standards.