



**Newcastle™  
Airport**

24 March 2016

Scot MacDonald MLC  
Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter and Central Coast

Via email - Scot.MacDonald@parliament.nsw.gov.au

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Dear Scot,

**RE: Draft Central Coast Regional Plan**

Newcastle Airport Pty Limited ("NAPL") has reviewed the above plan and considers carefully planned development in the Central Coast as being crucial; further in respect of major assets the adjacency to the Hunter region needs to be considered. Alignment in delivery of coordinated key infrastructure assets is important to provide for efficient and effective investment.

Newcastle Airport strongly identifies the Central Coast as being within its core catchment and is working hard to support this community. As an established airport operation, Newcastle Airport has made significant investments in existing infrastructure on site, from funding off its own balance sheet or in partnership with funding from other agencies such as the NSW Government.

As a key regional asset transportation links from the Central Coast to Newcastle Airport should be part of the Central Coast development strategy now and into the future.

Scale of operations is vital in developing a viable self-sustaining airport. The critical mass of operations of over 500,000 -1,000,000 passengers per annum enables more investment to be achieved and greater scale efficiencies to deliver wider regional outcomes than what otherwise could be achieved. These passenger throughput numbers can only be achieved from an appropriately sized catchment.

A catchment that encompasses both the Hunter and Central Coast, has allowed Newcastle to achieve a scale where it is operating at a profit, allowing ongoing investment and the ability to offer a growing range of destinations and flight times. As part of our catchment, Central Coast residents will continue to benefit from the strengthened offer of air services from their airport.

We welcome carefully planned housing supply being provided in the Central Coast region as for the Hunter. This needs to take into consideration current and future flight paths that do not introduce conflict in respect to noise contours.

In respect to the Central Coast Regional Plan, we would also welcome the opportunity to engage with departmental planners and others regarding how Newcastle Airport can best serve our catchment including both the Hunter regions and those adjacent and near to Williamtown.

Yours faithfully,

**Dr Peter Cock**  
Chief Executive Officer