

Interim Aviation Council Terms of Reference

Ehara taku toa I te toa takitahi, engari he roa takitine
Success is not mine alone it is the success of the collective

Background

- 1 Aviation contributes significantly to the New Zealand economy. In 2023, we welcomed 2.96 million total international visitors to New Zealand who spent \$9.9 billion whilst here, with 98% of these visitors arriving via international flights.
- 2 In 2023 there was a total of 175,522 tonnes of international air cargo exports and imports to/from New Zealand airports valued at \$31.0 billion. This comprised 89,424 tonnes of high value air cargo exports valued at \$11.7 billion and 86,098 tonnes of essential air cargo imports valued at \$19.2 billion.
- 3 New Zealand as a geographically isolated trading nation has an economy and society that heavily relies on a high quality, efficient and safe international and domestic aviation system. Aviation is vital for social connections, access to healthcare and support to emergency responses.
- 4 Collaborative leadership is critical to ensure system-wide integrity and performance, including the maintenance of safety, security and resilience, the ability to harness emerging technologies, and effective and efficient domestic and international connections.
- 5 In May 2023, the previous Government received the final report from the Air Navigation System Review (the Review). The Review made nine recommendations, with key recommendations relating to driving system leadership, direction, and performance. The Review proposed the establishment of an interim, and then permanent, aviation council.
- 6 The establishment of this Interim Aviation Council (Interim Council) is a foundational action in response to the Review.

Role of the Interim Aviation Council

- 7 Aviation plays a key role in economic development and in supporting long-term economic growth. It supports our place in the world as a modern, outward-looking, and accessible country and ensures New Zealand's integration in the global economy, providing direct benefits for users and wider economic benefits through its positive impact on productivity and growth.
- 8 The economic contribution of aviation, including its indirect contributions, is significant and vital to our economy. Aviation faces a number of challenges but also presents exciting opportunities. Driving aviation forward will require input from the sector as a whole.

- 9 The Interim Council will allow government agencies and the aviation sector to work together on a collective goal to ensure that New Zealand retains a strong and successful aviation sector – while fostering a more adaptive, flexible, and agile environment.
- 10 In support of these goals the functions of the Interim Council are to:
- i. scope and work with officials to develop a draft National Aviation Policy Statement;
 - ii. advise on the sector’s response to, and prioritisation of, the Air Navigation System Review panel recommendations;
 - iii. work with the Ministry of Transport to develop terms of reference for a permanent Aviation Council; and
 - iv. enable Government, agencies, and the aviation sector to voice their opinions and provide advice and recommendations on how to address challenges facing the sector and how best to embrace opportunities.

Membership

- 11 Membership of the Interim Aviation Council comprises:
- i. Audrey Sonerson - Ministry of Transport (chair)
 - ii. David Morgan - Air New Zealand
 - iii. James Young - Airways New Zealand
 - iv. Simon Wallace - Aviation Industry Association
 - v. Carrie Hurihanganui - Auckland International Airport Limited
 - vi. Cath O'Brien - Board of Airline Representatives of New Zealand
 - vii. Catherine McGowan - Wisk Aero
 - viii. Keith Manch - Civil Aviation Authority
 - ix. Māhanga Maru - Air Ruatoria
 - x. Carolyn Tremain - Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
 - xi. Andrew McKeen - New Zealand Airline Pilots Association
 - xii. Billie Moore - New Zealand Airports Association
 - xiii. Darryn Webb - New Zealand Defence Force
- 12 Members of the Interim Council have wide-ranging aviation-related interests and are well placed to support progress on the Review’s recommendations.
- 13 Success will require active participation and buy-in from public and private sector participants and their wider networks. This includes making connections with the international aviation sector and networks. It is crucial that the Council takes into account what is happening in other parts of the world and links in with the experience and developments of the broader international aviation sector.
- 14 Members will be expected to have the requisite mana/authority to speak for and make decisions on behalf of their organisation. It is acknowledged that representatives of membership-based organisations will not be able to bind their individual members.

- 15 It is desirable that organisations have consistency of membership throughout the Council's term.
- 16 It is expected all Interim Council members, including the Chair, will observe the following general expectations of conduct:
- work in an inclusive manner where diverse voices of all members are listened to and heard equally in an environment of trust and respect, within which all members can safely share their views;
 - raise the range of views of the sector they may belong to, even when they may not represent their own views;
 - take collective responsibility for the actions and decisions of the Interim Council;
 - meet all necessary privacy, security and legal requirements, including but not limited to the requirements of the Official Information Act 1982 and the Privacy Act 2020; and
 - maintain and safeguard the confidentiality of information submitted to them or obtained in carrying out their role.
- 17 The Council may invite other aviation sector participants, and other interested parties to contribute to particular work items, or (with the approval of the chair) to attend meetings, as appropriate, to bring their specific perspectives or otherwise add value to particular discussions.

Work Progression

- 18 Work will need to be progressed outside of the meeting through contributions by council members. Subgroups, and working groups, may be stood up to undertake some of the work in-between meetings.

Relationship with other work

- 19 The Interim Aviation Council will serve as advisory body, providing recommendations and advice to the government and the aviation sector. It will not duplicate work going on elsewhere within the sector but will instead provide a strategic context for the work, such as the work undertaken by Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa.
- 20 In developing a National Aviation Policy Statement, and its broader discussions, the Interim Aviation Council will be mindful of other plans and strategies related to aviation and aerospace being undertaken and led by other parts of Government such as the work being undertaken to increase the resilience of New Zealand's critical infrastructure, Aotearoa New Zealand Aerospace Strategy.

Communications

- 21 The Interim Aviation Council's work may be communicated and/or shared with the wider aviation sector to ensure transparency and collective buy-in to the process.
- 22 Only the Chair or the Secretariat shall make public statements on behalf of the Interim Council. All media requests for Interim Council comment received shall be referred to the Secretariat. Members can express the views of their individual organisation in the public or the media at any time if these are not presented as the views of the Council.

Secretariat

- 23 Secretariat services will be provided by the Ministry of Transport.
- 24 The Secretariat will be responsible for meeting administration, including associated pre- and post-meeting activities, and all communications activity on behalf of the Interim Council.

Term

- 25 The Interim Council shall run through to 31 December 2024, at which point it is expected to be succeeded by a permanent Council.

Meetings

- 26 Meetings will be chaired by the Chief Executive of the Ministry of Transport.
- 27 Meetings will be hosted at the Ministry's Wellington office (3 Queens Wharf). In-person attendance is preferred.
- 28 Meetings will be held every two months until November 2024 (24 May, 25 July, 26 September, and 27 November). The exact timings of these meetings may be subject to change as agreed by the Council.
- 29 The Ministry will publish the final Terms of Reference for the Interim Aviation Council and final minutes of its meetings after these minutes have been reviewed and approved by its membership.

24 May 2024