

Submission by Guido Zuccoli-23 November 2024

I am writing to outline the significant benefits of allowing collective bargaining in relation to the lease terms and pricing at Toowoomba City Aerodrome. The airport serves a critical role in aviation training, local business operations, and regional connectivity, and collective bargaining would ensure fairer terms for all stakeholders, particularly the flight schools and small aviation operators who rely on the facility. Historically, Toowoomba City Aerodrome has been integral to both commercial and recreational aviation. It is a hub for student pilots, serving as a training ground for many who go on to have successful careers in aviation. The aerodrome's proximity to major urban centers and its capacity to handle a variety of aircraft types make it a crucial resource for regional aviation training. It also supports essential maintenance operations, which are vital for the safe and efficient running of aircraft. The aviation training industry in Toowoomba, particularly the flight schools, plays a vital role in the local economy. These businesses often face significant cost pressures, and any increases in lease fees or changes in pricing structures can severely impact their ability to operate. Allowing collective bargaining would enable these small operators to negotiate more equitable lease terms, ensuring that they remain financially viable while continuing to provide valuable training services. Additionally, the maintenance operations at Toowoomba City Aerodrome support both student pilots and the broader aviation community. Fair pricing and lease terms would contribute to the sustainability of these operations, ensuring that the aerodrome continues to be a hub for both student training and ongoing aircraft maintenance. In conclusion, collective bargaining for lease terms and pricing at Toowoomba City Aerodrome would provide long-term benefits for the aviation community, ensuring sustainability and growth for both local businesses and the region's economy.