

Submission by Jetfix Avionics Pty Ltd-25 November 2024

Dear ACCC, I own and operate a business in the highly specialized and niche field of Avionics Maintenance with a compliment of 12 staff. As a small business, I am at a significant disadvantage when it comes to negotiating with large entities like Toowoomba City Council, given their size and resources. Unfortunately, their approach seems to be a "divide and conquer" strategy, which is putting multiple small businesses at risk of being pushed out of the airport precinct, ultimately leading to closures. The current practice of non-renewal of leases has only further isolated and marginalized businesses within the precinct, creating an environment where smaller operators like myself, are unable to make well informed decisions about my business strategy or infrastructure investments. Any plans for growth are currently on hold due to the uncertainty created by the Toowoomba City Council's actions. I fully support the collective bargaining request made by Toowoomba City Community Aerodrome Inc. (TCCAI) and believe that its successful approval is crucial for the survival and sustainability of my business. This collective effort is essential not only for my continued success but also for ensuring that our specialized skills and services can continue to support the entire region. I believe the proposed collective bargaining arrangement will help ensure continued public access to a range of essential services at the airport, including aircraft maintenance, flight training, charter services, aero-medical patient transfers, air ambulance operations, freight services, as well as critical relief efforts for floods, fires, and other natural disasters. It will also maintain general accessibility for the community, including for events and other activities.