

Submission by Ollie K-21 November 2024

Dear ACCC, As the owner of an aircraft based at Toowoomba City Aerodrome, I support any effort for collective bargaining by Toowoomba City Community Aerodrome Inc. (TCCAI). This will benefit leaseholders at the airport with subsequent benefits flowing down to users and the community through reduced uncertainty and fair hangar leases and operational costs. The Aerodrome hosts a number of businesses, from pilot training, aircraft maintenance, charter, hangar providers and emergency services. The Council has delayed renewing these leases, creating uncertainty for all the above and preventing effective long term planning. Collective bargaining will ensure leaseholders are able to negotiate appropriate terms with council on a level footing rather than the current one sided individual bargaining process. This will in turn ensure leases can be priced fairly and with appropriate lengths for business planning. Simultaneously collective bargaining will reduce individual lessees legal costs by allowing for negotiations to take place on a like for like legal basis rather than small business having to take on the legal might of a large council. Voluntary participation in collective bargaining should address any competition concerns and the lack of alternative publicly owned airports in the area further addresses this concern. The ACCC should consider any and all applications for collective bargaining by TCCAI.