

Infrastructure Policies – Aerodromes and outback Aircraft Landing Areas (ALAs)

The Trust will support the development of a network of safe, well-maintained and managed community airstrips in the outback on the basis of their strategic value for emergency evacuation, health service delivery and economic development.

Trust investment in communal airstrips will be proportionate to their value as a regional facility serving the broader public interest. The airstrips of highest regional strategic value will be identified as Category 1 and receive 100% financial support and be operated under the direct management of the Trust.

Capital investments to improve the reliability of Category 1 airstrips will occur as either internal or external funds are identified and committed in line with a prioritisation process that reflects the community interest.

The Trust will require formal, legal tenure over any airstrip identified for 100% financial support and full management responsibility.

Community-owned airstrips in Category 2 – being of lesser strategic importance and more local value - will be supported at subsidy levels reflecting their contribution to regional community interests.

Airstrips near alternative larger landing facilities may not receive funding subsidy and may be actively encouraged to close.

With both Category 1 and Category 2 airstrips the Trust will commit to supporting organised local contracts to manage the airstrip and ensure their status as safe facilities in line with requirements arising from the regular safety inspections the Trust facilitates.