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Media release

Newcastle Airport welcomes news of special activation precinct

Friday, 15 March 2019

Newcastle Airport welcomes the news that its surrounds would potentially be declared a Special Activation Precinct if the NSW Liberal Party is re-elected.

Speaking today, Newcastle Airport CEO Peter Cock said the future of Williamtown had the potential to be a great local success story.

“There’s no doubt our region will strongly benefit from the jobs and economic growth generated by this precinct around Williamtown RAAF and our Airport,” he said.

“We have launched stage one of our world leading Aerospace technology park, Astra Aerolab, awarding over \$1.2m of contracts for its development in the past month.

“Hearing that Astra now has the potential to be in the heart of a Special Activation Precinct will only serve to heighten interest and help turbocharge the local economy.”

Astra Aerolab is set to become the pre-eminent space for innovation in aviation, defence and aerospace-related manufacturing, maintenance, research and education; and is being developed on 76 hectares of prime land in Port Stephens that directly adjoins Newcastle Airport and the RAAF Base Williamtown.

Ends.

Further information

Stephen Crowe, Newcastle Airport Executive Manager Corporate Affairs

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Astra Aerolab: Key facts

- > 73 lots on 46 hectares of developable land
- > Adjoining Newcastle Airport and RAAF Base Williamtown
- > Direct airside access for selected lots
- > Outstanding onsite lifestyle will include cafes, parks and cycleways
- > Best of the Hunter region – affordable living, quality education, beaches, vineyards and more
- > 5,500 new jobs
- > \$19.66M project funded by the NSW Government, City of Newcastle and Port Stephens Council
- > \$246M economic boost
- > Population of Greater Newcastle – 500 000 and growing



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Notes for the Editor:

Newcastle Airport <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/>

Newcastle Airport Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ntlairport/>

Newcastle Airport Twitter Feed: <https://twitter.com/NTLairport>

Newcastle Airport Master Plan: <https://www.newcastleairport.com.au/corporate/about/masterplan>

Astra Aerolab <https://astraerolab.com.au/>

About Newcastle Airport

- > Named 'Major Airport of the Year' at the 2018 Australian Airports Association Industry Awards.
- > Newcastle Airport is the second international gateway into New South Wales and the second busiest airport in the state.
- > Serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican to nine direct domestic destinations and onward to more than 65 worldwide destinations.
- > Direct international flights to Auckland New Zealand will operate 22 November 2018 - 17 February 2019. Operated by Virgin Australia, the 13-week seasonal service is the first international route in 16 years.
- > FY17/18 passenger results saw Newcastle Airport break its all-time FY record with 1,272,634 travellers passing through the terminal.
- > The record throughput is a result of 25-month consecutive year-on-year monthly passenger growth recorded up until December 2017.
- > A record-breaking 4,823 passengers travelled through Newcastle Airport on Thursday 24 November (the day before Newcastle Supercars). The same weekend (Thurs-Mon), saw more than 21,000 through the Airport.
- > In December 2018, Newcastle Airport welcomed its 18 millionth passenger through the terminal since 1995.
- > Newcastle Airport is the gateway to Australia's largest regional economy, with more than \$43 billion annual output and 48,500 businesses.
- > A significant economic driver, Newcastle Airport contributes more than \$1.1 billion to the state's economy each year. Of this, \$300 million is direct to the visitor economy, supporting 3,300 jobs.
- > Newcastle Airport is internationally ready, the international arrivals and departures fit-out completed in August 2017.
- > In its 70th anniversary year, Newcastle Airport continues to work with its airline partners to increase the number of flights to our current destinations, to add direct flights to even more destinations, and to work tirelessly to secure more international destinations.
- > The more people that choose to fly from Newcastle Airport will provide evidence to the airlines that the demand truly exists and that our region deserves more.
- > On 22 March 2018, Newcastle Airport released its 60-year Master Plan, which includes a 20-year blueprint for growth, projections and business development of the Airport.
- > 30 minutes north of Newcastle, Newcastle Airport is located adjacent to RAAF Base Williamtown on land leased from Department of Defence.
- > Newcastle Airport Pty Ltd is jointly owned by City of Newcastle and Port Stephens Council and is governed by an independent, skills-based Board of Directors.