

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers



Runway Safety Project

Q: What does the runway safety project involve?

A: The project involves reconstructing the 9,200 square metre concrete threshold at the northern end of Sydney Airport's main north-south runway.

Q: Why is the project necessary?

A: The existing concrete threshold was constructed in 1968. To ensure runway safety, the pavement is now at a stage where it requires replacement.

Q: How long will the project take to complete?

A: The project is targeted to commence in mid-June, and last for up to five months (subject to weather). Work will be undertaken 24-hours a day to complete the project as soon as practicable.

Q: Will there be an impact on flights to and from Sydney Airport?

A: There will be an unavoidable (but limited) impact on some flights to and from Sydney Airport for the duration of the project.

For local residents, the key impact will be on the flight path used by aircraft landing on the main north-south runway from the north. This flight path will be unavailable during the project. This is because aircraft cannot land over the worksite as to do so would expose workers on the site to low flying aircraft and an unacceptable risk to their health and safety.

Q: How will that impact flights in my local area?

A: For the life of the project, aircraft that would have landed on the main north-south runway from the north will need to land on one of Sydney Airport's other runways, all of which (subject to weather) will be available.

These other runways are the parallel north-south runway and the east-west runway. Aircraft will also still be able to land on the main north-south runway from the south (over Botany Bay) and take-off to both the north and south.

People living beneath flight paths to or from these other runways may notice an increase in the number of flights.

Attached is a chart showing the flight paths to and from Sydney Airport used by jet aircraft and the affected flight path.

Q: Will there be any change to the limited number of overnight freight and other flights permitted to operate during the curfew?

A: With one exception, we anticipate there will be no impact on permitted flights during the curfew.

If there is a need to undertake other safety or maintenance work on the main north-south runway during the life of the project – such as for ground lighting works, line marking, rubber removal, asphalt surface patching or the like – it may be necessary to apply to the Australian Government for a dispensation to use the parallel north-south runway during the curfew.

If that occurs, Sydney Airport will ensure affected communities are notified in advance.

Flight paths to and from Sydney Airport used by jet aircraft

