

**About Brisbane Airport:** Brisbane Airport is the third largest airport in Australia on passenger numbers and operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is Australia's largest capital city airport (by land size) and has two major terminals providing services to 29 airlines flying to 42 national and 28 international destinations. In 2011/12FY Brisbane Airport welcomed more than 21 million passengers through its facilities.



# DON'T CURFEW BNE MANAGING AIRCRAFT NOISE



## OVERVIEW

This Fact Sheet provides information about the operating impacts of a night-time curfew on Brisbane Airport and noise abatement initiatives that are currently in use.

- » Brisbane Airport has the largest noise buffer zone of any capital city airport in Australia, with the nearest residence 6.7km away (compared to 600 metres at Sydney, Gold Coast, Cairns and Adelaide)
- » Around 75 per cent of flights between 10pm and 6am arrive and depart over Moreton Bay
- » In June 2013, Brisbane Airport recorded almost 18,000 aircraft movements and only 99 noise complaints.

**Brisbane Airport is one of Australia's fastest growing passenger and freight airports and was located and designed for 24/7 operations.**



Restrictions on 24-hour operations at Brisbane Airport would increase – not reduce – aircraft noise impacts and contribute to flight delays.

Brisbane Airport is built on a 2,700 hectare site located 13 kilometres north-east of Brisbane's central business district. It has the largest noise buffer zone of any capital city airport in Australia. The airport is surrounded by natural and zoned areas which ensure the airport can expand to meet business and consumer demand, and effectively manage aircraft noise.

Managing aircraft noise at Brisbane Airport is a responsibility shared by BAC, airlines and a number of government agencies. Together these organisations actively research, plan and implement noise abatement measures to balance the needs for the safe operation of a growing airport, and protecting residents from the worst impacts of aircraft noise.

### Impacts of a curfew

Imposing a curfew on Brisbane Airport would not solve most of the night-time aircraft noise impacts. It would actually worsen noise impacts by forcing an increased number of flights to operate during the peak periods before and after curfew hours.

Increased air traffic during peak periods when the airport is operating at or near capacity is also likely to contribute to flight delays. Several airlines have confirmed they will build buffers into flight schedules close to the curfew periods. For example, airlines will be more likely to cancel late evening flights than risk arriving after curfew in the event of delays or weather events. Effectively, these airlines will not schedule flights to arrive at Brisbane Airport after 10.30pm.

### Noise abatement

Noise complaints data gathered by Airservices Australia suggest that abatement measures are reducing the impacts of aircraft noise. A total of 99 noise complaints were received in June 2013, a period in which Brisbane Airport recorded almost 18,000 aircraft movements. This is a significant decrease from July 2012 when 917 complaints were received compared to 18,662 aircraft movements.



Extensive noise monitoring and abatement measures are in place at Brisbane Airport.

- » Around 75 per cent of flights between 10pm and 6am arrive and depart over Moreton Bay (when weather conditions permit) rather than flying over residential areas. After take-off over Moreton Bay, aircraft must reach an altitude of 5,000 feet before they are clear to turn over land, minimising the noise impacts for residents.

» A range of flight procedures have been established to reduce noise impacts and are independently monitored. These procedures include:

- » Continuous Descent Approach allowing aircraft to fly from cruising altitude to the runway in one smooth descent with engines at minimum power settings to reduce noise.
- » Smart Tracking which uses the aircraft's on-board computer systems and satellite navigation to more precisely program flight paths and reduce the air corridor over residential areas.
- » More details are available on our website [www.bne.com.au](http://www.bne.com.au).

The planned parallel runway at Brisbane Airport will be a noise management tool in its own right. The new runway will allow as many aircraft as possible to land and take-off over Moreton Bay, depending on weather conditions.

More information on how aircraft noise is monitored and managed at Brisbane Airport can be found on our website [www.bne.com.au](http://www.bne.com.au) and in our booklet *Above and Beyond: Working together to manage aircraft noise at Brisbane Airport*.

**Restrictions on 24-hour operations at Brisbane Airport would increase – not reduce – aircraft noise impacts and contribute to flight delays.**

**Don't curfew BNE.**

