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# Media Release

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## AAA welcomes report on WA regional airfares

The Australian Airports Association (AAA) has welcomed the release of the WA Economic and Industry Standing Committee report on regional airfare pricing today.

AAA Chief Executive Officer Caroline Wilkie thanked the Committee for its consideration of this important community issue.

“We know airfares are of critical importance to the regions in WA, who rely on air services to connect their communities and economies with Perth and the rest of Australia,” Ms Wilkie said.

“The AAA welcomes the Committee’s findings that landing fees constitute a generally small component of the total cost of regional airfares.

“It’s also pleasing to see the efforts of some airports to proactively fix or reduce charges in support of their local communities acknowledged by the Committee.

“It’s disappointing that a lack of transparency from airlines has made it difficult for the Committee to draw conclusions on whether the airlines are setting fair prices for people living and working in regional WA.”

Ms Wilkie said regional airports played a vital role in Australia, particularly in large and sparsely populated states like WA.

The inquiry into regional airfare pricing highlighted private airport operators and local government authorities are investing in airport upgrades, repairs and maintenance to keep their communities connected.

Ms Wilkie said the report was a timely reminder of the importance of the AAA’s Protect Regional Airports campaign, to ensure appropriate funding for regional airports to maintain vital airside infrastructure.

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