



Australian Government

Department of Defence



Joint Statement

Airservices Australia – Department of Defence – Aircraft Noise Ombudsman

Reasons for changes to the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman Charter

Airservices Australia, the Department of Defence and the Aircraft Noise Ombudsman (ANO) have agreed to changes to the charter of the ANO to strengthen functions, powers and key investigatory and review processes.

The changes are intended to ensure that the ANO Charter remains fit for purpose and meets the objectives articulated by the Australian Government in the *National Aviation Policy White Paper* (December 2009).

The changes align the ANO Charter with the Australian and New Zealand Ombudsman Association's *Essential Criteria for Describing a Body as an Ombudsman*. This benchmark is aimed at reinforcing public confidence in the independence, integrity and impartiality of the ANO.

The ANO was formally appointed to review military aircraft noise complaints in 2015. The ANO will continue to review noise management practices associated with military aircraft, although references to specific military aircraft have been removed from the Charter.

Significant new or amended content can be found in the following sections of the new ANO Charter: Part 1, Part 2, Part 7, Section C, Section D and Section E. Previous versions of the ANO Charter are available on the ANO website (ano.gov.au/about/).

The changes to the ANO Charter will come into effect on 1 October 2020.

8 October 2020
