

**SUBJECT: LMM 28/11/2023 - NEWCASTLE WILLIAMTOWN AIR SHOW 2023
SUCCESS**

MOTION

That City of Newcastle:

1. Notes that City of Newcastle, in partnership with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF), welcomed around 100,000 spectators to the Newcastle Williamtown Air Show 2023 over the weekend, delivering an estimated economic output of \$19.5 million, with hotels reporting a 97% occupancy rate over the weekend.
2. Notes images and footage of Newcastle's spectacular coastline were broadcast to audiences throughout NSW and interstate as part of the Air Show.
3. Congratulates City of Newcastle's Media Engagement Economy and Corporate Affairs team who has been working with the RAAF for more than 12 months to coordinate all on-ground activity as part of the Air Show.
4. Notes that Newcastle continues to shine as a destination thanks to City of Newcastle's ongoing strategic investment into major events like Newcastle Williamtown Air Show 2023.
5. Thank the NSW Government, Transport for NSW, and NSW Police for their support in delivering this incredible event for the community.

BACKGROUND

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) conducts a major air show in Australia every two years with the last one held in NSW in 2010. City of Newcastle (CN) collaborated with RAAF to host the Newcastle Williamtown Air Show 2023 with flying displays over Newcastle on Saturday, 18 November and a non-flying open day at RAAF Base Williamtown on Sunday, 19 November.

Free viewing areas were established on Saturday at Nobbys Beach, Foreshore Park and Stockton and a premium viewing area at Fort Scratchley.

Transport for NSW provided additional train, light rail, bus, and ferry services in addition to operating a Park and Ride facility from McDonald Jones Stadium.

NSW Police committed an additional 85 officers, over and above the normal Police response for a Saturday. Department of Regional NSW also provided \$125,000 funding through the Newcastle Port Community Contribution Fund to assist CN to deliver the on-ground services for the event.

The one-off event delivered by CN alongside the RAAF, and supported by Transport for NSW, NSW Police, and the NSW Government, is a testament to Newcastle's growth as a world-class events and cultural city and indicative of a thriving local economy. The event provided an opportunity to showcase the diversity of our city including its rich heritage, natural scenery and vibrant cultural scene to the visitors attending the event, with hotels reporting a 97% occupancy rate over the weekend.

REMPAN modelling for the event shows an estimated economic output of \$19.5 million based on 50,000 day visitors to Newcastle and 40,000 overnight visitors.