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Media Release

NSW Tourism Association welcomes investment to ensure Western Sydney International Airport's success

The NSW Tourism Association welcomes the NSW Government's \$8 million **Western Sydney International Take-Off Fund**, which will help attract international airlines to Western Sydney International Airport (WSI) and strengthen aviation capacity from its opening in 2026. With the fund matched by WSI, this \$16 million investment will play a vital role in boosting visitor numbers, driving tourism expenditure, and ensuring the airport's long-term success.

Western Sydney International Airport is set to be a game-changer for the visitor economy, creating new pathways for international visitors to explore New South Wales. By increasing aviation connectivity, this initiative will provide more choice for travellers and deliver significant economic benefits to communities across the state.

Administered by Destination NSW, the fund will help secure airline commitments, ensuring WSI is positioned as a key global gateway from day one. The NSW Tourism Association strongly supports this investment, which aligns with broader efforts to grow the state's visitor economy to \$91 billion by 2035.

In addition to this welcome investment, the NSW Tourism Association encourages the establishment of an **Open Aviation Attraction Fund** that all NSW airports, with international connectivity, can access. Expanding aviation connectivity beyond WSI will further strengthen the visitor economy by ensuring airports across the state have the support needed to attract new routes and carriers.



Quote from Natalie Godward, CEO, NSW Tourism Association:

"It is fantastic to see this significant and strategic investment in the future of tourism for New South Wales. Western Sydney International Airport will be a cornerstone of our state's visitor economy, opening new opportunities for international travel, dispersing visitors beyond Sydney's CBD, and showcasing the incredible diversity of experiences available across the state. We commend the NSW Government for this commitment and look forward to seeing WSI thrive as a major aviation hub."

"Aviation connectivity is critical to growing tourism across New South Wales, and while this funding for Western Sydney International Airport is an important step, a broader aviation attraction fund would support airports statewide, enabling more visitors to explore all corners of our state; with the aviation sector more competitive than ever post-COVID, NSW must compete aggressively to remain a destination of choice for airlines or risk losing market share."

NSW Tourism Association looks forward to working closely with the NSW Government, Destination NSW, and industry partners to maximise the impact of this investment and to further build aviation links across the state.

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For media inquiries, please contact:

Natalie Godward: CEO, NSW Tourism Association
Email: ceo@nswtourismassociation.com.au
Phone: (02) 9089 8889