



## **RAAA CALLS FOR NEW DEAL**

The Regional Aviation Association of Australia (RAAA) today called upon the Government to renew its efforts in reforming the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and to take positive action to harmonise Australia's aviation safety regulations with the rest of the world.

With the announcement yesterday of the resignation of CASA's Director of Aviation Safety, Mark Skidmore AM, the RAAA sees it as essential that the CASA Board moves as quickly as possible to appoint an appropriately qualified successor to carry out the necessary reforms within CASA.

The RAAA called for a new deal for Australia's aviation industry in light of the poor results of an independent stakeholder relationship survey conducted on the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

The survey indicated a general dissatisfaction by industry respondents in their overall relationship with the country's aviation safety regulator. CASA was rated well below par in its ongoing dialogue with industry, consistency of decision making and, in particular, the development of aviation safety regulations.

The survey follows the Government's Aviation Safety Regulation Review (ASRR) carried out in 2014 which identified a need for CASA to improve its service delivery and relationship with stakeholders. It found that CASA needed cultural change and a new strategic direction.

Commenting on the survey result RAAA Chairman, Jim Davis, said "It is obvious that CASA needs to pick up its game. It is now over 18 months since the ASRR report was adopted by the Government but CASA has a long way to go in achieving its objectives".

He added, "The Government now needs to take action to ensure that the ASRR report's recommendations are effectively implemented and haven't been turned into just another bureaucratic box ticking exercise".

The RAAA urges the Government to urgently commission a progress report into the implementation of the ASRR recommendations and to have it carried out by one or more of the original authors of the ASRR report.

It also calls upon the Government to direct CASA to harmonise Australia's aviation safety regulations with overseas jurisdictions by removing the current red tape and unfair restrictions to competition suffered by Australian industry.

### **Media Contacts:**

Jim Davis: 0408 640 533

Mike Higgins: 0434 608 332

Dated: Friday, 26 August 2016

*Serving regional aviation, and through it, the people and businesses of regional Australia*

Unit 11, 26-28 Winchcombe Court, Mitchell ACT 2911

ABN: 23 008 568 054 Telephone: 02 6162 0305 Facsimile: 02 6162 0308 Email: [office@raaa.com.au](mailto:office@raaa.com.au) Website: [www.raaa.com.au](http://www.raaa.com.au)