

Media release

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Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa takes flight

A new leadership body that brings government agencies together with the private sector has been set up to tackle domestic aviation emissions, Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport Acting Chief Executive Bryn Gandy has announced.

Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa will provide strategic direction and coordination on ambitions for low-and-zero-emission aviation and will work to accelerate the decarbonisation of aviation.

“Domestic aviation accounts for around 6.3 percent of Aotearoa’s emissions, and we need to work together across government and the private sector to collaborate on ways to address this,” said Bryn Gandy.

“Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa is a great first step to bring our partners closer together, to work on solutions that will benefit everyone. It’s pleasing to see the enthusiasm and energy from the aviation industry to work towards Aotearoa’s ambitious emissions goals.”

The group includes representatives from airports, airlines, pilot associations, other industry partners and government departments to accelerate emissions reduction in the aviation sector.

The Emissions Reduction Plan sets targets to reduce transport emissions by 41 percent by 2035. The establishment of Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa marks the delivery of one of the actions required by the ERP to decarbonise aviation. Other actions include developing emissions reduction targets for domestic aviation, and implementing a sustainable aviation fuel mandate.

“Air travel has a vital role in moving people and freight around the country. In many cases, air travel is a core mode for inter-city and interregional travel. Improving domestic aviation sustainability is critical for its long-term future.

“I look forward to building on the platform we have created, as we look to make progress in the coming years,” Bryn Gandy said.

More information on Sustainable Aviation Aotearoa, including the terms of reference, can be found here: www.transport.govt.nz/climate-change/

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