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MEDIA STATEMENT FROM AAC

End of lease by Scouts Queensland

Archerfield Airport Corporation (AAC) has confirmed that it is not in a position to continue subsidising the lease of airport land for use by Scouts Queensland. Consequently, airport land occupied by Scouts Queensland for many years will be used for other purposes from 2008.

AAC's Chief Executive Officer, Gerard Campbell, said today:

"The Corporation is very happy that talks with Scouts Queensland have led to an amicable outcome regarding the association's activities on airport land.

The Scouts' building at Archerfield Airport will soon be relocated by the association for re-use or sale, and the Scouts plan to continue their air-related activities at the airport using existing flying providers.

We believe this solution is a financial win-win for both Scouts Australia and Archerfield Airport, and we appreciate the cooperation shown by the Chief Commissioner of the Scout Association of Australia and others involved in discussions regarding the future of the air activity centre.

The reality is that since the airport was privatised, Archerfield Airport operates under a commercial environment. While the Corporation has willingly subsidised the Scouts' facility to the value of about \$70,000 per year, the association's presence at the airport is no longer viable.

Under the Airport Master Plan, the site is earmarked for redevelopment. Also under the airport's new security arrangements, airside access is now highly regulated, which has affected onsite Scouting activities.

While other space at the airport could be made available for restricted air-related activities, the association has advised that it is not in a position to pay commercial rates.

Archerfield Airport Corporation has offered to meet some of the costs involved in removing the Scouts' airport building, and we are assisting the association to establish what we believe will be a very practical and cost-effective solution."

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