

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **New Helipad for Port Augusta Aerodrome**

Port Augusta City Council has been successful in securing \$89,395 of funding under the Department of Infrastructure and Transport Support Regional Aviation Program, to install helipad facilities at the Port Augusta Airport.

The new Helipad will provide direct support to the Royal Flying Doctor Service and increase medical and patient transport in critical emergencies to and from Port Augusta. It will also provide additional transport options commercially at the airport.

"The health and wellbeing of our community is very important. To ensure safe ongoing patient transfers and transport operations, the new helipad is crucial for our remote community." Mayor Brett Benbow stated.

The RFDS often transfers patients from country hospitals to major metropolitan hospitals for life-saving treatment or a higher level of care. Once a patient is admitted to a country hospital often their condition can deteriorate or tests reveal an urgent need for specialist treatment at a major hospital.

Every year the RFDS provides emergency aeromedical and primary health services to more than 283,000 people across Australia.





BRETT BENBOW
MAYOR PORT AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL
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