

Media Release **No. 584**

For immediate release 9 September 2014

TSRA AND TSC OFFICIALLY OPEN STAGE TWO OF THE HORN ISLAND AIRPORT UPGRADE

The Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA) and Torres Shire Council (TSC) officially opened stage two of the Horn Island Airport Upgrade today.

Horn Island Airport has undergone a range of work to upgrade its runways and facilities to meet mainland standards.

In Stage 1 of the upgrade the TSRA and Queensland State Government contributed \$3.1 million to extend the airport runway and to construct a temporary security screening shed at Horn Island airport.

The TSRA has since provided a further \$1.1million to Torres Shire Council for Stage 2 of the Horn Island Airport upgrade.

TSRA Chairman, Mr Joseph Elu, said the success of Stage 2 of the upgrade is a testament to the ongoing partnership between TSRA and TSC.

“TSRA works with council to ensure both funding and deliverability is made available for quality infrastructure in the Torres Strait region,” Mr Elu said.

“The TSC effectively delivered stage two of the upgrade which included the construction of a new waiting area and offices for airport staff in the old waiting room shed.

“The works included replacement of the main roof sheeting, replacement of kiosk roof and gutter, new cleaners room, concrete paving installation of electrical conduits in the runway.”

Mr Elu said the TSRA Board encouraged a facility for the appropriate management of the deceased in transit to be installed as part of the new upgrade.

“The TSRA Board wrote to TSC and the Hospital Health Service in September 2013, stating their concerns about the management of the deceased in transit,” Mr Elu said.

“A temporary facility has now been installed in a section of the old waiting room and the Council now has plans to undertake a feasibility study into the costs of a permanent, culturally appropriate facility.”

ENDS

TSRA Media Contact – Bruce Nelson 0423 403 449