

**Question on notice no. 31**

**Portfolio question number: SQ26-000061**

**2025-26 Additional estimates**

**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, Infrastructure,  
Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts  
Portfolio**

**Senator the Hon. Matthew Canavan:** asked the Airservices Australia on 9 February 2026—

Senator CANAVAN: Were there any staff, air traffic controllers or Airservices Australia staff, not available today to work?

Mr Curran: There were normal processes of air traffic controllers not being available, but they were all covered. None of the delays in Sydney this morning—I checked this morning—were due to air traffic control.

Senator CANAVAN: How many air traffic controllers called in sick today?

Mr Curran: I'd have to take the specifics on notice, but—

Senator CANAVAN: But some called in sick today?

Mr Curran: Yes. We've got about 50-ish air traffic controllers we deploy every day into Sydney. In the normal course of events, there are a number of illnesses or absences due to carer's leave or sickness, as the case may be, but they were all covered.

Senator CANAVAN: If you could, take that on notice. And were there some in Sydney?

Mr Curran: Yes. I'm referencing Sydney specifically. I'm not aware of any other significant weather disruptions in the network today other than Sydney