

Question on notice no. 37

Portfolio question number: SQ26-000253

2025-26 Additional estimates

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

Senator Matthew O'Sullivan: asked the Airservices Australia on 20 February 2026

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- (1. As of December 2025, how many air traffic controllers are there for Sydney airport, and what is the authorised strength required?
2. According to media reports, 91 controllers were recruited in 2025. How many new air traffic controller recruits are anticipated to start at Sydney airport in 2026?
3. Are the issues such as the 15 January delays in Sydney, and similar ones at Brisbane airport on 23 December 2025, related only to recruitment shortages, or are there other factors involved?