



Aviation Industry Association of NZ (Inc)

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3 October 2012

The Hon Steven Joyce
Minister for Economic Development
Minister for Tertiary education Skills and Employment
Private Bag 18041
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160

Dear Minister

The purpose of our response to your letter of 05 September is to request a meeting with your advisors and particularly those who concluded that there were 1000 students studying aviation per annum during the years 2008 to 2011.

In the context of our letters to you, which were solely about pilot training, their advice was and is flawed. Over 300 of the students, while studying aviation, are not training as pilots.

Under 700 were training as pilots, however, at any one point the number of pilots entering employment never exceeded the number of commercial pilot licenses issued in any one year.

The gulf in understanding between official advice provided to you about pilot training numbers and completion rates, and the industry's own information has been a concern for some time. Decisions made to restrict numbers, lower funding caps, and rationalise funded flight schools, have been based on questionable information and analysis. The information provided to you for your most recent letter reaffirms that point.

However, in saying this, we were heartened by your comment that you will continue to monitor the situation. To ensure the effectiveness of "monitoring the situation" it seems a sensible suggestion that 'we' (including your officials), "monitor" from the same sets of data and same understandings of what the data actually means.

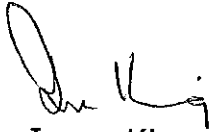
To that end we would request assistance from your office to urgently facilitate a meeting for us with your officials, to agree what the available information actually means. All our information is



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pointing to forward demand very rapidly exceeding forward supply of pilots necessary to underpin the sectors growth opportunities and aspirations.

Yours sincerely



Irene King
Chief Executive

