

# Building our Regions

## St George Airport Infrastructure Upgrade



### Funding\*

<b>Total project cost</b>	<b>\$170,000</b>
BoR funding	\$170,000

The safety and reliability of the St George Airport has been boosted following the completion of the \$170,000 Building our Regions infrastructure upgrade.

Improved lighting is particularly important when it comes to medical retrievals, with 40 Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) landings at St George in the 12 months to the end of June 2017.

“With modern upgrades to LED lighting at St George, visibility for our pilots has increased significantly, meaning safety around night landings has also improved,” says RFDS (Queensland Section) Line Operations Manager Anthony Hooper.

“These lighting improvements, combined with better drainage and line markings to improve the surface of the airstrip during wet weather, mean our pilots can do their job in a much safer, controlled manner.”

For Regional Express pilot Dan Head, who regularly flies the twice-weekly Brisbane-Thargomindah route that stops in St George, the repainting of runway, taxiway and apron lines has been a major enhancement.

“The new line markings have made a significant improvement to visibility on approach,” says Dan.

A recent incoming flight from Brisbane saw nine passengers disembark, including school students home from boarding school and a group of Queensland Country Women’s Association (QWCA) state executives from centres including Mackay, Hervey Bay and the Sunshine Coast, visiting St George for a regional meeting.



*Regional Express (Rex) pilot Dan Head reboards the plane at St George ready to fly on to Cunnamulla and Thargomindah*



The project, completely funded by Building our Regions, also included overhauling the runway lighting from traditional incandescent to LED bulbs to reduce damage from lightning strikes, power surges and blackouts. The switch to LED also means the new lights have a much greater lifespan and use a quarter of the power of traditional bulbs.



*An excited group of Queensland Country Women's Association (QWCA) branch members land at St George Airport for the Southern Region Meeting. QCWA State President Joy Coulson, Cooroy; State Vice President – Northern Region Marie Baulch, Mackay; State Vice President – Central Region Janis Street, Hervey Bay; and State International Officer Sara Faddy, Maleny, were among 70 members from across south west and south east Queensland who travelled to St George for the meeting in June 2017.*

\* Funding amounts referenced are as approved.