



# Media release

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**Authorised by: DENNIS WELLINGTON, MAYOR**

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## **Statement regarding Virgin Australia and the Albany air route**

The City of Albany is optimistic a suitable airline will be selected to operate the Albany-Perth air route following Virgin Australia's decision not to bid for the tender for the route.

The State Government is currently conducting a tender process to select a carrier to operate the route after 27 February 2016, when the current deed with Virgin expires.

The City of Albany is not part of the tender evaluation process.

Albany Mayor Dennis Wellington said it was disappointing Virgin had decided not to bid.

"However, the fact that Virgin is prepared to honour tickets sold beyond February 27 2016 is a good sign. This will ensure continuity of service and a smooth transition to the new carrier," he said.

Mr Wellington said the City was optimistic a suitable airline would be selected.

"Our ideal solution would be a carrier which can provide a quality fleet of aircraft, good frequency of flights, value for money and good seat capacity," he said.

"However, there are significant economic challenges to this route and that is something that we all need to appreciate."

**END**