

GOVE AIRPORT SECURITY SCREENING

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Ceasing of Security Screening at Gove Airport by 19 December 2020

On commencement of the Aviation Transport Security Amendment (Regulations 2019) by the 19 December 2020, Gove Airport will:

- no longer be required to undertake security screening (Passenger & Checked Bag Screening)
- Gove Airport will remain regulated as an **Unscreened Security Controlled Airport**

Compliance with relevant Aviation Transport Security Legislation (Aviation Transport Security Act & Regulations) and Gove Airports Transport Security Plan (TSP) is required.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PASSENGERS

If Travelling beyond Darwin and Cairns passengers will be required to:

- disembark at the airport to the non-sterile area;
- collect own baggage;
- check-in self and bag/s in the non-sterile area for other flight/s;
- participate in screening of self and carry-on luggage to enter sterile passenger departing area.

Please note: passengers will need to ensure enough time is allowed between flights, to collect baggage, check-in and for security screening. It would be best to contact your air service operator to check on the closing time of flights.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

The Corporation has spent considerable time assessing all options and implications of this change and recognise the impact this change will bring.

Q What screening services are conducted at Gove Airport?

A Gove Airport provide the following screening to control prohibited items like weapons and explosives

- checked in baggage
- passengers
- carry-on baggage

Q Who provides this service at Gove Airport?

A MSS security are contracted to provide a security service in accordance with Aviation Security Transport Regulations at Gove Airport.

Q Why is screening ceasing at Gove Airport?

A The amendment to the Aviation Security Transport Regulations, does not require Gove Airport to conduct baggage or passenger screening. Gove airport has been considered low risk based on the number of flights, the size of aircraft, the number of passengers and the number of reported incidents.

Q Could NC decide to continue security screening?

A Nhulunbuy Corporation has considered requesting to continue security screening at a Tier 2 level, that would include body scanning. The Department of Home Affairs would still not recognise Gove Airport as a security screened airport, and therefore passengers would also not be recognised as screened passengers. Therefore, there would be no direct benefit to passengers to continue screening. The annual cost of screening plus the cost of purchasing a new body scanner is in excess of \$800,000. This is a cost that is currently passed through to passengers by way of ticket fees & taxes.

Q Will there be any security for incoming and outgoing passengers at the airport?

A Nhulunbuy Corporation will contract or employ a Security Officer to ensure the safe arrival and departure of passengers.

Q Will there be reduced costs because of not screening?

A The costs associated with providing a security and screening service are passed on to passengers, through Airnorth, as part of airfare tax. These charges will be reduced accordingly. Gove airport will still be providing security personnel at each flight, which will be an ongoing cost.

Q Will airfares be reduced because of the reduced security service costs?

A Airfares are determined by the airline – Airnorth. NC will encourage Airnorth to consider a reduction in passenger airfares in line with reduced costs to Airnorth for the changes in security services.

Q What will Airnorth require of me as a passenger?

A Please visit Airnorth website to determine what you are required to do as an unscreened passenger, airnorth.com.au or phone 1800 627 474.

Q If I am travelling beyond Darwin or Cairns will my baggage be forwarded onto the connecting flight by the Air service or airport?

A No – as the passenger you will now need to collect your baggage and check it in for your next flight. Your baggage and self need to be screened at Darwin or Cairns airport before departing. This is no different to the process previously if you had booked the Airnorth flight separate to your ongoing flight.

Q What items are passengers not allowed to take on a plane?

A Prohibited and permitted items are listed on the: homeaffairs.gov.au website.

Q What happens if you have a flight booked?

A Contact the air service provider.

For Further queries please call (08) 8939 2200

