

Investing in Modern Security and Passenger Processes: A Win for Our Local Economy and Jobs

This has a direct, positive impact on:

- Accredited travel businesses and their staff in your electorate
- 11.5 million travelling Australians who took an international trip in 2024
- 61.2 million Australian passengers who flew domestically in 2024

The Challenge: Travel Barriers Leave Australia Behind

Australia lags the world with antiquated e-gates, obsolete paper cards and an archaic visa system. Our fees including for Australian passports are now the most expensive in the world yet the funds do not go towards improvements in passports or processing.

Worse, Australia's digitisation lags: Singapore's e-gates clear arrivals in minutes; our paper-based relics can stall them for hours. A poor experience at one of Australia's ports impacts Australia's appeal and is often the first experience spoken about. For Australians, it often lowers confidence in the government's ability to secure the border.

Overall Australia loses out as it leads to a frustrated traveller experience, fewer jobs, weaker ties, less public revenue.

The Opportunity: Ticket to Australia's Travel Win

ATIA calls for measures to improve travel facilitation to boost traveller numbers and maximise Australia's social and economic benefits.

Effectively Fund Air and Sea Ports

A long-term funding structure for the ongoing improvement of airports and seaports should be established to enhance the visitor experience and drive productivity gains.

Funds collected through the Passenger Movement Charge (PMC) should be allocated directly to the security of the Australian border as per its original intent.

Streamline Passports

Invest in the Australian Passport Office to accelerate progress on enhancing the digital pathway for the passport application and renewal processes.

Strengthen Safe Travel / Enhance Smartraveller

Build on Smartraveller's proven success – delivering trusted advice. Add a new collaboration forum with identified businesses who operate in high risk destinations on a bi-annual basis. Ensure there is a continued focus on enhancing risk assessment frameworks for high risk destinations.

Modernise Borders

Advance technologies like SmartGates and expand pilots of phase out paper arrivals cards.

Here's What Your Support Delivers

Travel Jobs Grow

Smoother ports and borders draw more travellers, creating travel jobs across Australia – over 70% women held – to strengthen local livelihoods.

Easier Journeys

Quicker passports and seamless arrivals improve travel for Australia's residents and guests, easing frustrations and lifting experiences.

Travel & Tourism Lifts Off

Better facilitation fills local businesses – hotels, shops, cafes – with new revenue, fuelling community prosperity.

The national accounts also benefit - travel already adds over \$1.6 billion to Government revenue through the PMC and passport fees alone.

A Stronger Australia

More travellers boost a thriving travel and tourism sector and elevate Australia's global ties through soft diplomacy, and delivering lasting economic and social gains for your region.

An engagement with your community

Airports and ports are one of the only times you can showcase keeping the border secure. An investment into processing and security builds confidence in a strong border.