



MEDIA RELEASE

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Joyce welcomes REX Armidale-Sydney air service

FEDERAL Member for New England Barnaby Joyce has welcomed the announcement by Regional Express (Rex) to introduce an air-service between Armidale and Sydney.

Rex, in partnership with the Armidale Dumaresq Council, will introduce a thrice-daily service including peak morning and evening flights to and from Sydney.

Mr Joyce said Rex's proposal, which begins flights on 28 March, will provide a total of 36 weekly flights between Armidale and Sydney bringing an annual 60,000 seats to the route.

He said he'd made a number of representations on behalf of constituents from Armidale and other areas of the New England electorate about concerns regarding the cost of tickets and the lack of competition in the marketplace.

Mr Joyce said Rex's decision to service Armidale could lead to more Rex New England routes including services from Tamworth to Sydney and Tamworth to Brisbane

"It's great to see another player in the marketplace," he said.

"Reliable travel providers give our electorate and its constituents the opportunity to do what they do well with the support of good transport services," he said.

Services are planned to begin on Friday, March 28.

Rex's Network Strategy and Sales Manager Warrick Lodge said key factors in the decision included the current passenger numbers, growth potential of the route and the local community support.

"Residents can now experience what it is like to be serviced by the most reliable airline, both in terms of On-Time Performance and cancellations, in Australia with fair ticket prices and our trademark heartfelt country hospitality," Mr Lodge said.

From today reservations can be made on the web via www.rex.com.au, by phoning 13 17 13 or through a local travel agent.

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For further information contact (02) 6761 3080

