



# Harmonisation of the Transport Standards and Premises Standards

## Update October 2021

### Reviews and Reforms

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the **Department**), in partnership with the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, is working with representatives of the disability community, state and territory governments and the transport industry to modernise the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (**Transport Standards**).

Through the reform process the Department has worked closely with the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources (**DISER**), and the Attorney-General's Department to ensure consistency and alignment of requirements across the Transport and Premises Standards.

#### Recent updates:

- Decision Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for Stage 1 reforms for the Transport Standards finalised and will be considered by Transport Ministers in December 2021.
- Third Review Report of the Transport Standards is expected to be released by the end of 2021.
- 2021 Review of the Disability (Access to Premises — Buildings) Standards 2010 (**Premises Standards**) was released by the Assistant Minister for Industry Development on 29 September 2021.
- A recommendation of the Second Review of the Transport Standards was to align with the Premises Standards. A recommendation of the second review of the Premises Standards was to develop guidance on the interacting issues between the Premises Standards and Transport Standards.

### Areas for alignment under the Transport Standards reform process

As part of the Transport Standards reform process a number of areas for alignment are being considered across the Transport Standards and the Premises Standards, including (but not limited to):

- Improved guidance to support **safe egress** from premises and infrastructure
- Alignment of technical specifications and improved guidance for **wayfinding**
- Updating technical specifications and enhancing safety provisions for **lifts**
- Automated or power assisted **toilet doors**
- **Accessible car parking ratios** for premises and infrastructure, including continuous paths of travel
- **Updating 1992 Australian Standards references.**

### Opportunities for future alignment

The Department and DISER will continue to work together through their respective reform and review processes on opportunities for future alignment, including:

- Development of **consistent guidance** to support the Transport Standards and the Premises Standards
- Updating references to **2009-2021 Australian Standards**
- Timing of **legislative amendment processes**
- Exploring the adequacy of **dimensions of openings and thoroughfares** in the Premises Standards and the opportunity to align with the Transport Standards.

## Next Steps

- Release of the Transport Standards Stage 2 Consultation RIS for public consultation in early 2022.
- Update to 2009-2021 Australian Standards references in the Premises Standards and National Construction Code in 2022.
- Progress the Premises Standards Review Action 2:
  - Update the Australian Human Rights Commission Guideline on the application of Premises Standards.
  - Develop guidelines to address new and emerging issues identified stakeholders during the review.

## Further information

Further information on the Transport Standards reform process is available on the Department's website at:

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/transport-accessibility>

Further information on the 2021 Premises Standards Review and reform process is available on the DISER website at:

[www.industry.gov.au/PremisesStandardsReview2021](http://www.industry.gov.au/PremisesStandardsReview2021).