

# STATEMENT ON THE 16 DECEMBER 2022 MEETING OF THE HEAVY VEHICLE NATIONAL LAW STEERING COMMITTEE

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The second Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) Steering Committee (the Committee) meeting was held via GovTeams on Friday 16 December 2022.

Approaching the end of the year, the Committee's focus remained on progressing the package of reforms agreed to by Minister's on 5 August 2022.

The Steering Committee comprises the following members:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (Commonwealth)
- Mr Rob Sharp, Secretary, Transport for New South Wales (New South Wales)
- Mr Neil Scales, Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads (Queensland)
- Mr Gary Swain, Deputy Secretary, Transport and Infrastructure, Department of State Growth (Tasmania).

At the 16 December 2022 meeting, Mr Sharp (NSW) was represented by Ms Susie Harwood, Transport for NSW and Mr Scales (Queensland) was represented by Geoff Magoffin, Department of Transport and Main Roads.

The Committee heard an update from the National Transport Commission (NTC) in relation to the legislative reform program. The Committee received further information from the NTC in response to its requests for specific details regarding the NTC's delivery timeframes, consultations and project management. NTC provided a progress report on key work streams, including fatigue reforms, audit standards, and the technology and data framework. The Committee noted the NTC's updated legislative reform implementation plan for 2023/24.

In the interest of maintaining transparency and carefully monitoring progress on legislative reforms and the associated Decision Regulatory Impact Statement, the Committee asked the NTC to provide an in-person report on progress of the legislative reform program at each meeting of the Committee.

The Committee agreed the approach to progressing Recommendation 2.4 of the endorsed package of reforms. Consistent with the intent of the HVNL reform Recommendation 2.4, it was agreed the Commonwealth would engage an independent technical advisor to provide advice to the Committee on a national access system. The technical expert will review and provide advice in relation to the interoperability requirements of any systems that will be required to support and interface with a future national access solution, including the exchange of geospatial data.

Consistent with the intent of Recommendation 2.4, the Committee agreed that the implementation plan due to the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers Meeting in May would best be delivered by Austroads. As a national body, Austroads is well placed to receive and consider feedback from all jurisdictions, industry, road managers and other stakeholders. Austroads is currently undertaking an active role on this work and will be consulting widely including with governments, industry and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, with the assistance of an independent expert adviser engaged by the Commonwealth.

A further update on work related to access reform will be provided in early 2023.

The Committee also received an update on milestone reporting for non-legislative reform work plans, with interim milestones to be agreed in the new year – followed by more granular progress updates.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held in early February 2023.



## PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

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<b>Mr Jim Betts</b>	Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (Commonwealth)
<b>Ms Susie Harwood (Proxy for Rob Sharp)</b>	Director of Freight, Transport for New South Wales (New South Wales)
<b>Ms Geoff Magoffin (proxy for Mr Neil Scales)</b>	Deputy Director General, Land Transport Safety and Regulation, Department of Transport and Main Roads (Queensland)
<b>Mr Gary Swain</b>	Deputy Secretary, Transport and Infrastructure, Department of State Growth (Tasmania)

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## INDEPENDENT ADVISORS

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<b>Mr Matt Pinnegar</b>	Chief Executive Officer, Australian Local Government Association
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## APOLOGIES

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<b>Mr Ken Kanofski</b>	Ken Kanofski Advisory
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