



COMMUNIQUE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT MINISTERS' MEETING

Friday 7 June 2024

Infrastructure and Transport Ministers met today in Brisbane, Queensland.

Improving interoperability for Rail Systems

Ministers welcomed progress made to achieve rail interoperability on the eastern seaboard. Ministers agreed the National Transport Commission (NTC) will develop a strategic business case for a train control and signalling interoperability pathway for Australia. Ministers also agreed to pilot a single national application approach to register rolling stock operating on the national network of interoperability, investigate harmonising the testing requirements and locations for registering rolling stock, and developing guidance on safety assurance.

Rail Safety National Law Review (RSNL)

Ministers endorsed the Rail Safety National Law Review (Review) recommendations and approved publication of the RSNL review report. Ministers noted the high-level implementation plan proposed for the Review's legislative and non-legislative reforms, which will include consultation with key stakeholders on the draft legislation.

Decarbonisation of Transport and Infrastructure

Ministers noted the progress of the Infrastructure Decarbonisation Working Group and Decarbonisation of Transport Working Group to progress their respective workplans and agreed to add active transport to the work plan for the Decarbonisation of Transport Working Group.

Ministers provided in-principle support for the use of a nationally consistent set of carbon values in the assessment of business cases for transport infrastructure projects over \$100 million, with an aspirational commencement date of 1 January 2025. Ministers also approved the *Embodied Carbon Measurement for Infrastructure: Technical Guidance*, which provides a nationally consistent approach to measuring embodied emissions in infrastructure projects.

Road Safety

Ministers are concerned at the increasing number of people killed on Australian roads, and further explored key issues to drive change. Ministers noted the outcomes of the National Road Safety

Conference 2024, and endorsed the key action areas as outlined in the conference communique agreed by Road Safety and Police Ministers. Ministers agreed that implementing agreed road safety actions should be prioritised and an update provided at the next Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting. Ministers reaffirmed commitment to enhanced road safety data sharing.

Construction Culture Standard update

Ministers received an update from the Construction Industry Culture Taskforce (CICT) on the CICT Culture Standard. The Culture Standard aims to address the skills shortage in the construction sector as well as lift productivity, by providing a safer, more equitable work environment. Ministers agreed to continue to explore ways to enhance construction sector culture and participation, such as procurement practices and initiatives that enhance wellbeing, work life balance and diversity, and develop options to be considered in the next meeting of ITMM.

Heavy Vehicle National Law

Ministers received an update from the National Transport Commission on the Decision Impact Analysis (RIS) that is being prepared, which will seek decisions on proposed changes to regulations under the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL). Ministers agreed to recommendations providing access for heavy vehicles that are slightly longer and heavier, subject to adequate safety assurances. Ministers discussed the need for ongoing consideration of road maintenance and resilience, and joint investments that support productivity, liveability and sustainability. Ministers also requested the NTC undertake a review of the adequacy of licensing and accreditation arrangements for heavy vehicle drivers, and report back to the next meeting of ITMM.

Regulatory funding

Ministers approved the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator's (ONRSR) annual fee regulation using a modified version of the longstanding fee policy to reduce the size of the fee increase for industry. This results in an increase in fees for some accredited rail transport operators for 2024-25, and a fee decrease for others. Ministers also noted ONRSR commitment to continue to progress their review of regulatory services to ensure effective, efficient and transparent services are provided.

Housing Support Program

An oral update was provided on the Commonwealth's Housing Support Program, which supports the delivery of increased housing supply by funding projects for delivery of enabling infrastructure, community amenities, and social housing, and for building planning capability.



PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

The Hon Catherine King MP	Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (Commonwealth)
The Hon Jo Haylen MP	Minister for Transport (New South Wales)
The Hon Danny Pearson MP	Minister for Transport Infrastructure; Minister for Suburban Rail Loop; Assistant Treasurer; Minister for WorkSafe and the TAC (Victoria)
The Hon Melissa Horne MP	Minister for Casino, Gaming and Liquor Regulation; Minister for Local Government; Minister for Ports and Freight; Minister for Roads and Road Safety (Victoria)
The Hon Bart Mellish MP	Minister for Transport and Main Roads; Minister for Digital Services (Queensland)
The Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport; Minister for Energy and Mining; Minister for Regional Roads (South Australia)
The Hon David Michael MLA (obo the Hon Rita Saffioti)	Minister for Mines and Petroleum; Ports; Road Safety; Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport (Western Australia)
The Hon Jacquie Petrusma (obo The Hon Eric Abetz)	Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier (Tasmania)
The Hon Joel Bowden MLA	Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics; Minister for Business and Jobs; Minister for Skills, Training and International Education; Minister for Tourism and Hospitality; Minister for Recreational Fishing (Northern Territory)
Mr Chris Steel MLA	Minister for Transport (Australian Capital Territory)

