

# STATEMENT ON THE 19 JUNE 2025 MEETING OF THE HEAVY VEHICLE NATIONAL LAW REFORM IMPLEMENTATION STEERING COMMITTEE

July 2025

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The nineteenth meeting of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) Reform Implementation Steering Committee (the Steering Committee) was held on Thursday, 19 June 2025.

The meeting was attended by the following members:

- Ms Paula Stagg, First Assistant Secretary, Surface Transport Emissions and Policy, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts
- Mr Andrew Mahon, Deputy Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland
- Mr Scott Greenow, Executive Director Freight, Transport for NSW
- Mr Praveen Reddy, Executive Director, Freight Victoria, Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria
- Ms Emma Kokar, Executive Director, Transport Policy and Regulation, Department for Infrastructure and Transport, South Australia
- Ms Cynthia Heydon, Deputy Secretary, Department of State Growth, Tasmania
- Ms Kirra Cox, Executive Branch Manager, Strategic Policy and Programs, Transport Canberra and Business Services, Australian Capital Territory.

Representatives from the National Transport Commission (NTC) and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) were in attendance.

The National Automated Access System Technical Advisory Group (NAAS-TAG) provided a full update to the Steering Committee.<sup>1</sup> HVAMS is now live in Queensland for Australian Defence Force (ADF) heavy vehicles, allowing road access requests to be handled through the new automated system.

Work towards first releases for OSOM and special purpose vehicles in Queensland continues, on budget but with a small delay in getting the full pre-release testing arranged.

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<sup>1</sup> Further to the May 2025 statement on the NAAS, published [here](#).

The first phase of the NAAS will conclude in the first half of 2026 with the expected release of a next-generation version of automation, for PBS vehicles in Tasmania.

Phase 2 of the NAAS is expected to involve significant preparatory work towards releases in other jurisdictions, as well as integration with existing systems such as the NHVR's online 'Go' portal. Notably, the Steering Committee was presented, for the first time, with a draft plan of work for Phase 2, which included indicative cost estimates providing a clearer sense of the scale and investment required. It was noted that the plan is to be further refined to ensure the NAAS is delivered as quickly as possible within a reasonable budget for governments.

The meeting also considered issues around seeking consent from third-party owners of assets (such as rail infrastructure managers) to road access, with the Steering Committee requesting further work be undertaken in parallel with the NAAS.

The Steering Committee received a progress update from the NTC on the legislative package, currently with Ministers for consideration. The NTC is continuing work alongside jurisdictions, supported by technical input and safety analysis from the NHVR, on mass, length and height. The aim is to finalise the detail of how the policy settings agreed by Ministers in late 2024 will be put into law, through amendments to the *Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation*.

In addition, the NTC is currently working to finalise policy settings and relevant subordinate instruments, as agreed by Ministers. The NTC is working on a Ministerial Standard on Fatigue, with the new Ministerial Standard for Alternative Compliance Hours, to give effect to outer limits for fatigue. The NTC and NHVR are also working to develop a modern Safety Management System standard and National Audit Standard to accompany the amended law. The NTC will undertake further work and consult with industry on these additional streams of work in the coming months.

The Steering Committee—noting ITMM's decision on the future of the HVNL—has begun preparatory work to transition to a regular cycle of update and maintenance. The scope and priorities of any ongoing legislative maintenance program will be finalised later in 2025.

The Steering Committee discussed updates to the non-legislative work program, including how to best deliver on the intent of reforms relating to the Performance Based Standards (PBS) scheme. It was resolved that before progressing with further amendments to the HVNL (which could prove unnecessary and drawn out) there be further investigation of options (led by the NHVR) to streamline the PBS scheme and the process for seeking road access for new PBS vehicle approvals.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled to be held on 18 August 2025.