

Statement on the 18 August 2025 Meeting of the Heavy Vehicle National Law Reform Implementation Steering Committee

16 September 2025

The 20th meeting of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) Reform Implementation Steering Committee (the Steering Committee) was held on Monday, 18 August 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 Amy Crawford, Chief Executive Officer, Australian Local Government Association.

The Steering Committee continues to receive independent advice from Mr Ken Kanofski.

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

Attendees were advised that ITMM had unanimously endorsed the draft amendment Bill for the HVNL. The NTC is now tasked with working with jurisdictions on implementation timeframes. The Bill was introduced to the Queensland Parliament on 26 August 2025.

The National Automated Access System Technical Advisory Group (NAAS-TAG) provided a full update to the Steering Committee.

All jurisdictions, through the NAAS-TAG, have worked with the national project team to refine a detailed plan to deliver Phase 2 of the NAAS. Phase 2 sets out a schedule of releases

in each participating jurisdiction and will see new product features introduced (such as a road manager portal to allow easy updating of the asset data required for automation). NAAS Phase 1 continues with planned releases in Queensland and Tasmania.

The meeting also considered issues around seeking road access consent from third-party owners of assets (such as rail infrastructure managers), with the Steering Committee endorsing a proposed scope of work to be undertaken by the NTC.

The Steering Committee received a progress update from the NTC on the remaining work to complete outstanding elements of the legislative package. The NTC is continuing work alongside jurisdictions, supported by technical input and safety analysis from the NHVR, on changes to the Heavy Vehicle Mass, Dimension and Loading National Regulation.

In addition, the NTC is currently working on the relevant subordinate instruments, as agreed by Ministers, to operationalise the law. The NHVR is continuing work to finalise a Safety Management System Standard and develop a National Audit Standard. The NTC will be working toward preparing a package for implementation and will soon consult with industry on the final elements related to the MDL regulation and subordinate instruments.

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. The NHVR are continuing to progress the streamlining of the PBS scheme and other ways to simplify road access for approved PBS vehicles.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee is scheduled to be held on 5 November 2025.