

Statement on the 20 March 2023 Meeting of the Heavy Vehicle National Law Reform Implementation Steering Committee

14 April 2023

The fourth meeting of the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL) Reform Implementation Steering Committee meeting was held via GovTeams on Monday 20 March 2023 with an additional session on Wednesday 22 March 2023 to hear from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR).

The Steering Committee comprises the following members:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA)
- 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 most recent meeting, Mr Scales (Queensland) was represented by Mr Geoff Magoffin, Department of Transport and Main Roads. The Steering Committee continues to receive independent advice from Mr Ken Kanofski and the Australian Local Government Association who was represented by Mr Sanjiv Sathiah at both the meetings.

The Steering Committee finalised the details of the leads with responsibility for all of the HVNL non-legislative reforms (including leadership of the four reforms outstanding from the previous meeting) and agreed to publish the table providing this information. [The table is available here](#). Monitoring of progress of the non-legislative reforms will now be managed by a dedicated program management team within DITRDCA. The team will work with the reform leads to help drive progress, with regular reporting being provided to the Steering Committee and industry going forward.

The National Transport Commission (NTC) provided an update on their HVNL legislative reform program. NTC again noted that while the work remains generally on track overall, there are continuing risks and particular challenges in some areas. The Steering Committee reaffirmed their commitment to ensuring these important reforms continue to progress and offered support to the NTC in assisting to resolve areas of concern.

Both Austroads and the NHVR gave the Steering Committee an overview of the work their respective agencies are doing relevant to the development of a national automated access system (NAAS). Austroads has commenced the ‘Implementation Project Contemporary Heavy Vehicle Access Decision Making for Road Managers’ based on the Tasmanian HVAMS. This project aims to align with the work already underway from jurisdictions and will build on the work of Tasmania, NSW and Queensland. It will not duplicate or disrupt the work of those states and the NHVR.

The NHVR presentation included an update on the work it is doing on its online portal in relation to heavy vehicle access applications. By June 2023, the NHVR plans to have rolled out a single national network map function to display gazetted and pre-approved routes and an updated route planner, which will allow operators to test available access for different heavy vehicle combinations. The key role of both agencies in the successful implementation of the NAAS was acknowledged by the Steering Committee.

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be on 1 May 2023.

Participating members

Mr Jim Betts	Secretary, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – DITRDCA (Commonwealth)
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Mr Rob Sharp	Secretary, Transport for New South Wales (New South Wales)
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Mr Geoff Magoffin <i>(proxy for Mr Neil Scales)</i>	Deputy Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads (Queensland)
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Mr Gary Swain	Deputy Secretary, Transport and Infrastructure, Department of State Growth (Tasmania)
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Independent advisors

Mr Sanjiv Sathiah <i>(proxy for Ms Liz de Chastel)</i>	Director, Transport and Infrastructure Policy, Australian Local Government Association
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Mr Ken Kanofski	Ken Kanofski Advisory
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