

# Infrastructure and Transport Ministers and the Australian Local Government Association

## *Communiqué*

FRIDAY, 7 AUGUST 2020

Australian Infrastructure and Transport Ministers welcome that National Cabinet has today endorsed the Freight Movement Code for the Domestic Border Controls – Freight Movement Protocol (the Code). The Code enables states and territories to work together to enforce a range of health measures to keep freight moving across Australia in a COVIDSafe way.

The Code was developed by all Infrastructure and Transport Ministers and reflects the high priority all governments place on supporting the freight industry and our economy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Code will be implemented by jurisdictions over the coming weeks in collaboration with industry.

The Code aligns state and territory approaches to routine COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, personal protective equipment and effective self-isolation for freight operators crossing borders. These measures are drawn from the Domestic Border Controls – Freight Movements Protocol (the Protocol), endorsed by the National Cabinet on 24 July following Australian Health Protection Principal Committee endorsement.

The Code ensures a common and clear approach to enforcement, allowing the freight sector to continue to provide essential supplies of food, medicine and others items to all Australians. For example, the Code will ensure that where routine COVID-19 testing is included in border measures, no freight worker will need to be tested more than once during a seven-day period.

Infrastructure and Transport Ministers applaud the steps industry has taken to introduce COVIDSafe operating practices and developed the Code to assist industry to comply with measures as border controls change.

The Code will provide greater certainty for the freight industry and governments during these unprecedented times, ensuring measures can be enforced on the ground in a consistent and effective way.

Infrastructure and Transport Ministers will continue to work together on ways to further align border controls for the freight industry, while also protecting the Australian community.

The Code can be viewed at: [www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/vehicle\\_regulation/ris/](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/vehicle_regulation/ris/)

## PARTICIPATING MEMBERS<sup>1</sup>

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<b>The Hon Michael McCormack MP</b>	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (Commonwealth)
<b>The Hon Andrew Constance MP</b>	Minister for Transport and Roads (New South Wales)
<b>The Hon Paul Toole MP</b>	Minister for Regional Roads and Transport (New South Wales)
<b>The Hon Jacinta Allan MP</b>	Minister for Transport Infrastructure (Victoria)
<b>The Hon Ben Carroll MP</b>	Minister for Public Transport Minister for Roads and Road Safety (Victoria)
<b>The Hon Mark Bailey MP</b>	Minister for Transport and Main Roads (Queensland)
<b>The Hon Cameron Dick MP</b>	Minister for Infrastructure and Planning (Queensland)
<b>The Hon Corey Wingard MP</b>	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (South Australia)
<b>The Hon Rita Saffioti MLA</b>	Minister for Transport; Planning (Western Australia)
<b>The Hon Michael Ferguson MP</b>	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Tasmania)
<b>Chris Steel MLA</b>	Minister for Transport; City Services; Roads and Active Travel; Multicultural Affairs; Recycling and Waste Reduction; Tertiary Education. (Australian Capital Territory)
<b>Shane Rattenbury MLA</b>	Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety; Corrections and Justice Health; Climate Change and Sustainability; Mental Health. (Australian Capital Territory)
<b>Mayor David O’Loughlin</b>	President (Australian Local Government Association)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note the NT Government is in caretaker – the communique has been approved by Officials.