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The Courier

Information and Advice for NSW Transport Operators

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ATO Reminder: Courier Businesses to Report Taxable Payments Reporting System Payments by 28 August

The Australian Taxation Office has reminded courier businesses they need to report payments made under the Taxable Payments Reporting System (TPRS) by 28 August.

The TPRS was introduced to strengthen detection of those gaining an unfair advantage by not reporting or under-reporting their income, and to protect the majority of people who are doing the right thing.

The TPRS now applies to businesses providing courier services that have an Australian Business Number and make any payments to contractors for courier services they provide on a business's behalf. These businesses will need to complete a Taxable Payments Annual Report (TPAR).

This applies even if courier services are only part of a business's activities.

This new report for businesses providing courier services applies from 1 July 2018, with the first TPAR due by 28 August 2019.

Businesses must report total payments made to each contractor or subcontractor for courier services in the 2018-19 financial year.

Businesses providing mixed services, not just courier services, may need to lodge a TPAR if payments they received for courier services make up 10 per cent or more of their total GST turnover.

The ATO says it uses the information that businesses report to identify people who haven't lodged their tax returns or included all their income.

The ATO is encouraging businesses providing courier services to complete their report online through the ATO's Online Services or business software that offers TPAR. For more information on how to lodge, visit www.ato.gov.au/TPAR.

Details that businesses need to report for each contractor are:

- Contractor's name
- Address
- ABN, and
- Total amount the business paid them for the financial year.

The ATO's website has information to support businesses to understand and meet their obligations. For further information, please visit www.ato.gov.au/TPAR.

Transport Operators' Taxable Payments Reporting System Payments Due in 2020

The ATO reminds road transport operators that from 1 July 2019, the TPRS will also apply to businesses providing road freight services. These businesses need to lodge their TPAR by 28 August, 2020.

Reminder: Fuel Tax Credit Rates Increase on 5 August

ARTIO NSW takes this opportunity to remind Members that fuel tax credit rates for fuel purchased after 5 August, 2019 increase in line with changes to the fuel excise duty rate.

The new rates can be found at www.ato.gov.au/ftc_business.

The ATO also has a fuel tax credits calculator to assist in claims. It can be found at www.ato.gov.au/ftc_calc.

The ATO also has a link to simplified methods for calculating claims which is available at www.ato.gov.au/ftc_simplified.

40km/h Speed Limit Expanded in Sydney's CBD

Adapted from media release, Transport for NSW, 1 August, 2019

Transport for NSW has advised that 40 km/h speed zones will be extended to new areas within the Sydney CBD this month

Transport for NSW Executive Director Sydney, John Hardwick, said the NSW Government will install reduced speed limit 'high pedestrian zone' signs from 11 August.

He said the expanded 40 km/h zone in Sydney, Barangaroo, Dawes Point and Millers Point includes Sussex, Pottinger, Lower Fort, Windmill, Napoleon, Erskine, King, Market and Shelley streets and Hickson Rd.

In Ultimo, the reduced speed limits will be in place along parts of Broadway, near Harris St, along with Regent, Thomas, Harris, Mary Ann and MacArthur streets, and Ultimo Rd."

Executive Director of the Centre for Road Safety Bernard Carlon said the new speed limit will take effect when the signs have been installed to remind motorists the 40 km/h speed limit is legally enforceable.

Higher Fuel Prices Underpin CPI Increase

The Consumer Price Index rise of 0.6 per cent in the June 2019 quarter was underpinned in part by rising fuel prices, according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Automotive fuel prices rose by 10.2 per cent in the June 2019 quarter and were a major contributor to the 3.4 per cent growth in transport costs over this three month period.

The CPI rose by 1.6 per cent over the 12 months ending 30 June 2019, compared to 1.3 per cent for the 12 months ending 31 March, 2019.

Transport and Roads Ministers Commit to Zero Road Fatalities

The Transport and Infrastructure Council, comprising transport and roads ministers from the Commonwealth, States, Territories and New Zealand, expressed their strong commitment to developing the next National Road Safety Strategy based on a target of zero fatalities and made Road Safety.

In a communique issued following its meeting on 2 August, Council recognised responsibility for road safety rests across all levels of government, with the Australian Government signalling its commitment through the establishment of the Office of Road Safety, which will lead the development of the next Strategy.

National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and National Action Plan

The Council also endorsed the National Freight and Supply Chain Strategy and National Action Plan which will set an agenda for integrated national action across all freight modes over the next 20 years and beyond, focusing on four critical areas:

- Smarter and targeted infrastructure investment.
- Enabling improved supply chain efficiency.
- Better planning, coordination and regulation; and
- Better freight location and performance data.

The Action Plan shows for the first time, in a joined up way, the actions all governments are taking to respond to Australia's freight challenges and provide a baseline for further reforms.

Heavy Vehicle Road Reform

The Council held a strategic discussion on proposed key reform elements including independent price regulation, setting charges on a forward-looking basis, and potential funding reforms to strengthen links between heavy vehicle charges paid and road investments.

Transport Regulation

The Council reaffirmed its ongoing commitment to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator and its national mandate and tasked officials to ensure closer alignment between jurisdictions and the NHVR on regulatory approaches.

The Council approved legislative amendments to, amongst other things:

- The Heavy Vehicle (Mass, Dimension and Loading) National Regulation to increase the steer axle mass limit for eligible road trains to 7.1 tonnes.
- The Heavy Vehicle National Law Schedule of Infringement Penalties and Demerit Points.

NHVR Launches AFM Fatigue Kit

Adapted from media release, National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, 29 July, 2019

The NHVR has released *An Introduction to Advanced Fatigue Management (AFM)* booklet, at its second Fatigue Safety Forum held on 29 July.

NHVR Fatigue Specialist Andreas Blahous said the new booklet would provide simple information for operators seeking access to more flexible work and rest hours.

"AFM can be a powerful tool that allows businesses to unlock flexibility in their operations while reducing complexity and improving safety," Mr Blahous said.

"The flexibility available within AFM gives operators peace of mind through more control over work and rest hours, places a focus on risk management and can result in a significant return on investment.

“This booklet provides an introduction to some core aspects of AFM including information about the key benefits, requirements and application process.

“There are currently more than 50 AFM accredited operators across Australia and we want to see those numbers grow through making the process simpler and promoting the benefits.”

Earlier this year, as part of a new application toolkit, the NHVR released the first in a series of AFM booklets, showing examples of operating limits and countermeasures that are currently in use.

An Introduction to Advanced Fatigue Management is available at www.nhvr.gov.au/afm

The NHVR conducted its first Fatigue Safety Forum in October last year. the *Summary of Outcomes* from the first forum is available at www.nhvr.gov.au/files/201903-1029-fatigue-safety-forum-summary-of-outcomes.pdf

Transport for NSW Light Commercial Vehicle Drivers Survey

Transport for NSW has advised that it is developing a model of light commercial vehicle trips in Sydney to inform future plans, upgrades and strategies for Sydney's road network.

Sydney-based LCV drivers who take part in a short survey will receive a \$20 gift card.

ARTIO NSW urges Members with LCV fleets to encourage their drivers to take the survey at http://cdn.au.mailsnd.com/49022/QYA4HxTqjfq_VVpKeG80nF2KUfakCBy1noKU560g83A/2243059.pdf

Toowoomba Range Second Crossing to Open on 8 September

Adapted from media release, Queensland Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Mark Bailey, 30 July, 2019

Queensland Transport and Main Roads Minister Mark Bailey has said that the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing will open on 8 September.

Mr Bailey said the bypass will address increasing regional transport demands and will improve freight efficiency, driver safety and relieve pressure on Toowoomba's roads.

He said heavy vehicles will pay \$22.85, to use this toll road.

Mr Bailey also said a break-down pad will be built at Gatton to enable road trains to get closer to Brisbane before breaking down.

He said all heavy vehicles will be required to use the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing except vehicles with a local destination in Toowoomba, or travelling to, or from, the Warwick area via the New England Highway.

Vehicles with a destination in Toowoomba will be exempt from the mandate.

Mr Bailey also said tolls on the new Toowoomba Second Range Crossing will be free for three months.

TSRC tolling will be managed by Transurban Queensland (trading as Linkt), which means motorists with an existing Linkt account, or an account with another Australian toll provider, can use their current payment arrangement on the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing.

The 41km-long Toowoomba Second Range Crossing is a \$1.6 billion project, jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments. It connects the Warrego Highway in the east with the Gore Highway in the west, passing Withcott at the foot of the Toowoomba Range and the Toowoomba CBD.

For more information on tolling and heavy vehicle management arrangements on the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing, visit <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/TSRC> or telephone 13 12 30, anytime.

Road Works Update

Road Closures, Illawarra Region

RMS has advised that the following road closures are scheduled for the Illawarra region:

Road	Dates	Times
Mt Ousley and Picton Rds	11 August and 25 August	8pm – 4am
M1 – Memorial Dr to Masters Rd (Extended Lane Closures only)	12 August –15 August	8pm – 4am
Bulli Pass	20 August and 21 August	9am – 3pm
Lawrence Hargrave Dr (Station St to Lady Wakehurst Dr, Stanwell Park)	26 August	8pm – 4am

Smart Motorway Project Put to the Test

Adapted from media release, Minister for Transport and Roads, Hon Andrew Constance, 7 August, 2019

A range of new intelligent transport systems will be tested along the M4 Motorway from 14 August.

Drivers will see new technologies in action ahead of the M4 Smart Motorway project's completion in 2020.

Minister for Transport and Roads Andrew Constance said the systems will help to control the flow of traffic between Mays Hill and Penrith.

The new signals, which have been installed on a number of on-ramps, including at Reservoir Rd, will help to regulate traffic entering the motorway, as well as vehicles trying to merge at the same time.

Mr Constance said this technology will ensure less stop-start traffic and sudden braking at some of the most congested points along the motorway.”

He said that when the project is complete, these systems will talk to each other and automatically adjust to incidents and congestion without manual intervention.

Mr Constance said testing will measure driver behaviour and reaction to the technology ahead of the project opening to traffic.

He said planning is continuing for technology upgrades to other major motorways, including the M1 Motorway between Gosford and Sydney.

Other Road Works

The following new road work alerts may impact your operations. Please refer to earlier editions of *The Courier* for other current road works.

Suburb/ Town	Road	Date/s	No of Shifts	Work Times
Camperdown	City Rd north of Carillion Rd intersection	4/8-13/9/19	7	8pm-5am Sun-Fri
Woolooware	Cnr Kingsway and Woolooware Rd	1/9-Nov 19	45	8pm-5am Sun-Fri

Economic and Industry Indicators

Indicator/Source ¹	As at	Unit of Measure	Quantity	Annual % Variation
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¹ ABS – Australian Bureau of Statistics; RBA – Reserve Bank of Australia; AIP – Australian Institute of Petroleum; FCAI – Federated Chamber of Automotive Industries; TIC – Truck Industry Council/'Prime Mover' latest issue.

GDP latest quarter (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2019	\$m	463,613	1.7
CPI (ABS)	Jun Qtr 2019	Per cent		1.6
Cash rate (RBA)	Current	Per cent	1.0	
Estimated residential population (ABS)	9 Aug 2019	Million	25,442	1.7
Retail turnover (ABS)	Jun 2019	\$m	27,449	2.7
Actual new capital expenditure (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2019	\$m	29,451	-0.8
Inventories held by private business (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2019	\$m	162,129	1.0
Dwelling unit approvals (ABS)	Jun 2019	Number	14,501	-20.9
Manufacturers Income (ABS)	Mar 2019	\$m	81,819	-3.4
TEUs Port Botany (NSW Ports)	12 months to Jun 2019	Number	2,640,519	1.0
Employed persons (ABS)	Jun 2019	Million	12.876	2.6
Unemployment rate (ABS)	Jun 2019	Per cent	5.2	-0.2
Wage price Index (ABS)	Mar Qtr 2019	Per cent		
All employees				2.3
Transport, postal and warehousing				2.5
New motor vehicle sales (FCAI)	7 months to Jul 2019	Number	637,650	-7.7
Cab Chassis/Prime Mover Sales (TIC)	5 months to May 2019	Number	12,357	-6.9
Vans (TIC)	5 months to May 2019	Number	2,460	0.6
AIP Terminal Gate Price-Diesel-Sydney	8 Aug 2019	Cents/litre incl. GST	136.8	-0.7

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