



Welcome to the Local Government Update.

Our Stakeholder Relations team has been working hard around the country in anticipation of the amended Chain of Responsibility laws due to take effect later this year.

A recent meeting of local government road managers in Brighton, Tasmania was a great example of jurisdictions working with local government to improve safe and efficient access. As well as the NHVR, in attendance were representatives from the Department of State Growth and the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

In Queensland, the Local Government Association of Queensland has assisted the NHVR in facilitating 18 sessions of the rollout of the Road Manager Module. All Queensland councils have now transitioned over to the full Portal. See our front page story for more details on the advantages of moving over to the Portal.

Still in Queensland, planning is underway for the next in a series of heavy vehicle access forums. They're a great way to bring councils and industry together, enabling collaborative work on key priorities including improving local freight networks. Upcoming forums will be held with Issac Regional Council, Cassowary Coast and Logan City Council. Please contact your local stakeholder specialist if you would like to hold a heavy vehicle access forum.

**John Gilbert, OAM**  
Manager Stakeholder Relations

## Faster permits through the Portal Full - Road Manager module

Many Road Managers around the country are enjoying the increased ease of processing permits by using the NHVR's Portal Full - Road Manager module.

According to NHVR's Portal Program Director David Carlisle, using the Portal Full saves time and streamlines the administrative work involved in processing permits.

"Portal users experience a number of advantages such as better editing and reporting capabilities, the ability to create customised profiles to suit specific needs, having multiple account users and varying levels of access.

"In addition the Permit Library allows improved and easier records management. Your records team can all have their own log-in and access all the permits and details of each case to populate their respective in-house records systems.

"This will also allow councils an improved audit history. There is no need to track the emailing consent/application request links," added David.

Road Managers using Forms are finding that a link can get lost in one's inbox or may actually expire.

"The NHVR server only keeps records for one month and they can't be resent," said David.

"Another advantage of using the Portal Full is the Conditions Library.

"Road Managers can add to the standard, edit or modify the standard to suit their set requirements or set their own.

"This all saves having to keep retyping the same information into a permit."

Heavy Vehicle Access Liaison Officer, LGAQ, Robbie Chow says high volume local government users are telling him that the Road Manager Module (NHVR) Portal has many benefits.

"Portal users have access to better quality data, a better communication process that is transparent and trackable and the council saves on administrative costs due to more efficient end to end processing.

"They're also able to better check consent history," added Robbie.

If you are not yet activated in the NHVR Portal Full, you'll be contacted in the near future to help walk you through the transition process. If you wish to migrate now, please contact Deborah-Marie Arnaud via email [deb.arnaud@nhvr.gov.au](mailto:deb.arnaud@nhvr.gov.au) to fast track the process.



L-R: LGAQ rep Robbie Chow, Portal Project Officer Deborah Arnaud and Stakeholder Specialist QLD Jason Stewart

## Planning underway for next NSW heavy vehicle access forums

The NHVR is continuing to bring councils and industry together in our heavy vehicle access forums with plans underway for the next round of NHVR heavy vehicle access forums across New South Wales.

NHVR Stakeholder Specialist Tim Hansen said that the forums enable industry representatives and road managers to come together to learn more about each other's roles.

"Being able to identify and progress heavy vehicle priorities to improve productivity and safety in local freight tasks is the goal.

"Forum outcomes to date include route pre-approvals to reduce permit burden on councils, infrastructure upgrades, and trials of more productive and safer heavy vehicle combinations.

So far, the NHVR and local councils have held forums in Blacktown, Forbes, Shoalhaven, Grafton, Berrigan and Griffith in partnership Local Government NSW, IPWEA NSW, and Roads and Maritime Services (RMS).

"With all parties focused and working on the same priorities, we've been able to make some good progress in improving local freight networks," added Tim.

"That said, there's still opportunity for more progress, so we are in discussions to hold more forums in 2018.

"Based on feedback from industry and councils, we are targeting the Tweed region, the Hunter region and the ACT/Southern NSW, with these events likely to take place around the middle of this year," Tim said.

If you would like to progress these kinds of discussions with industries in your area, please contact one of our stakeholder specialists to discuss further:

**QLD - Jason Stewart - 07 3309 8769**

**ACT/NSW - Tim Hansen - 07 3309 8601**

**VIC/SA/TAS -**

**Simone Reinertsen - 0407 201 559**

## South Australia's heavy vehicle pre-approvals extended

The NHVR has welcomed the extension of Adelaide's pre-approved heavy vehicle network with access to an additional 27kms from 19 March 2018.

NHVR Access Operations Supervisor Sean Pederick said the pre-approvals of 33 additional roads across Adelaide's northern and western suburbs would slash permit application times and allow the continued safe movement of heavy vehicles up to 30 metres in length.

"The extension of the pre-approval network will result in a further reduction in permit

turnaround times for South Australia's oversize, over mass freight industry," Mr Pederick said.

"I welcome the steps taken by the City of Port Adelaide Enfield and their willingness to work with the local heavy vehicle industry to deliver greater efficiency and productivity.

Pre-approvals became effective on March 19, and will remain in place for 12 months. OSOM operators are still required to apply for permits through the NHVR at [www.service.nhvr.gov.au](http://www.service.nhvr.gov.au)

## Webinar explains CoR changes

A new webinar featuring NHVR CoR Manager Kym Farquharson-Jones and LGAQ Heavy Vehicle Liaison Officer Robbie Chow discusses the responsibilities facing local councils under the amended Chain of Responsibility laws, soon to be introduced.

Kym outlines how changes to the CoR laws will impact local government.

According to Kym, main areas affecting councils are waste, infrastructure, maintenance and any activities such as gardening that involves vehicles over 4.5 tonnes.

"The focus moves away from driver breaches and moves towards a safety duty.

"Councils need to identify parties in their chain and then look at that from a risk management perspective.

"Our website provides information and resources for councils to build their own Safety Management Systems to ensure they're covered," added Kym.

More information can be found on our [website](#). [The webinar can be viewed here](#).



Kym Farquharson-Jones (left) and Robbie Chow discuss CoR

## Pre-approvals to make local economy more productive

NHVR can work with you to improve heavy vehicle access. A pre-approval makes local industries more productive and keeps local economies strong. The pre-approvals process targets routes expected to experience large numbers of heavy vehicles (particularly oversized over mass, but not exclusively).

This includes roads in industrial areas and access routes connecting existing approved routes or state-controlled roads to industrial areas, heavy haulage, crane and construction equipment depots, supply and manufacturers of large equipment, construction sites, major

infrastructure sites such as power stations, ports, mining and heavy industry sites.

Pre-approvals save time and resources for the road manager in processing applications, assessing applications and responding to requests from the NHVR.

If you would like to progress discussions around pre-approvals please contact one of our stakeholder specialists below:

**QLD - Jason Stewart - 07 3309 8769**

**ACT/NSW - Tim Hansen - 07 3309 8601**

**VIC/SA/TAS -**

**Simone Reinertsen - 0407 201 559**