

# Heavy vehicle compliance in Victoria transfers to NHVR

From 8 December 2019, VicRoads will no longer provide heavy vehicle on-road compliance and enforcement services in Victoria. Instead these services will be provided by the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR). This change is part of a nationally consistent approach to compliance and enforcement activities for heavy vehicles.

From 8 December 2019, the Transport Safety Services Officers (TSS Officers) currently employed by VicRoads will join the NHVR as Safety and Compliance Officers (SCOs).

The NHVR SCOs will have the same authority to stop heavy vehicles to check compliance as the TSS Officers currently do. SCOs will monitor heavy vehicle compliance with the Heavy Vehicle National Law (HVNL), registration and licensing requirements and road rules as part of mobile patrols and at heavy vehicle checking stations located across Victoria.

## What else is changing?

### Branding

The NHVR SCOs will be easily recognisable by their distinctive uniforms, badges and vehicles.

During November 2019, the VicRoads vehicles currently used by TSS Officers will start to have their branding changed to the NHVR. Until the rebranding process has been completed—which may take several weeks—you may see both NHVR and VicRoads branded vehicles being used by authorised officers.

Irrespective of the vehicle branding, drivers and operators must comply with the lawful directions of authorised officers.

### Functions

The NHVR will assume responsibility from VicRoads for:

- providing information and education to industry to promote compliance with relevant laws
- on-road monitoring of heavy vehicle compliance with mass, dimension, load restraint, vehicle standards, access conditions, driver fatigue, curfews and road rules, including speeding, driver licensing and registration
- issuing infringements and undertaking prosecutions for serious offences
- issuing defect notices where heavy vehicles do not comply with safety standards
- investigating offences, including Chain of Responsibility (CoR) offences
- collecting and analysing data relating to heavy vehicle movements, including monitoring of the heavy vehicle safety camera network
- monitoring and responding to non-compliance with the Intelligent Access Program (IAP)
- providing heavy vehicle escort services\* to ensure safe and timely movement of oversize overmass (OSOM) loads.

\*Regular users of heavy vehicle escort services will be provided with details of how they should book these after 8 December. More information regarding heavy vehicle escorts in Victoria will be published on the NHVR website.





## What's not changing?

VicRoads will continue to provide the following services in the same way that they currently do:

- heavy vehicle driver licensing
- registration of heavy vehicles
- clearance of heavy vehicle defect notices
- sale of National Written Work Diaries (NWWDs)
- tow truck investigations and compliance.

## Why is this change important?

The NHVR was established in 2013 to be the single, national regulator of heavy vehicles in Australia, and to apply and enforce the HVNL. All states and territories—with the exception of the Northern Territory and Western Australia—have adopted the HVNL as the single rule book for heavy vehicles.

At the start, the NHVR relied on state and territory agencies to deliver the majority of its frontline heavy vehicle regulatory

services. Over the past few years, it has been working closely with states and territories to transition these services to the NHVR, enabling a more streamlined approach to service delivery, compliance and enforcement, and a greater degree of consistency in how heavy vehicles are regulated.

As a national regulator, the NHVR can provide nationally consistent training and enforcement methods and resources, and undertake more complex, cross-border CoR investigations.

Victoria is the fourth state—after South Australia, Tasmania and the ACT—where the NHVR will be directly delivering heavy vehicle regulatory services.

### For more information

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