Queensland Police Service Temporary Variation to Escorting Arrangements – Information sheet

The purpose of this document is to inform the Class 1 Oversize and Over mass (OSOM) operators of a temporary variation to escorting arrangements by Queensland Police Services (QPS).

This temporary variation can only be accessed through a letter of authority available on the NHVR website. The letter of authority may be used in conjunction with a current permit or Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Dimension Exemption Notice 2016 (No. 1) and Multi-State Class 1 Load Carrying Vehicles Dimension Exemption Notice 2016 Amendment Notice 2019 (No. 1).

This temporary variation will only be in place during the disaster declaration period relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Impacts to OSOM operators

This temporary variation is applicable to Class 1 OSOM movements, not exceeding 5.5 metres in width and 35 metres length, by substituting QPS escorts with additional accredited level two escorts and/or level one pilots.

This is a change in the current approach where police escorts are required for loads wider than 4.5 metres on all Critical Roads and all roads in Critical Areas in within Queensland.

The temporary variation will be available for single loads only, with same direction of travel.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No traffic control required</th>
<th>One (1) QPS escort and two (2) level two escorts</th>
<th>Two (2) level two escorts and two (2) level one pilots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some traffic control required</td>
<td>One (1) QPS escort and two (2) level two escorts</td>
<td>Four (4) level two escorts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The temporary variation will NOT be available for:

- Wide loads travelling in convoy; or
- All wide load movements involving contra-traffic flows, reverse direction of travel, traffic control and other manoeuvres contrary to the Qld Road Rules; or
- Any overheight movement.

How long is the variation?

The variation will be in place starting on 1 April 2020 and will remain in place during the period covered by the disaster declaration for COVID-19.

Escort vehicles position

The position of escort vehicles around the wide load is detailed in s.7.7 of Form 41 Guideline (TMR v.3) with the only change being that the pilot and/or escort vehicles will take the position/s normally occupied by police vehicles.

Why is QPS implementing a variation to police escorts?

The QPS is committed to ensuring public safety during the COVID-19 pandemic and may be redirecting the majority of QPS resources to this activity.

This means that the QPS may not be readily available to offer escort services.

In addition, there is a high likelihood that vehicular traffic movements will be restricted and result in lower traffic volumes on Queensland’s road network.

How to apply

All operators wishing to utilise the temporary variation must download and carry a copy of the letter of authority available on the NHVR website.

For more information:
Subscribe: www.nhvr.gov.au/subscribe
Visit: www.nhvr.gov.au
Phone: 1300 MYNHVR* (1300 696 487)
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