



Office of Road Safety: Update One – June 2019

Establishing the Office of Road Safety

As foreshadowed in the Budget 2019-20 announcements, the new Office of Road Safety will commence operations on 1 July 2019. It has been established to improve leadership and coordination efforts across governments as we work to reduce deaths and serious injuries on Australian roads.

The Office will initially be focused on establishing the functions needed to perform its lead agency role while delivering priority government commitments to new and continuing road safety programs.

In August, the Transport and Infrastructure Council will consider a range of actions in response to the Inquiry into the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-20, the outcomes of the Governance Review and the initiatives stemming from both the Inquiry and the Review. As a result, the outcome of the August Council meeting will be an important input to the longer term role of the Office.

The key objective of the Office of Road Safety is to provide national leadership in eliminating road trauma in Australia. The Office will operate as the primary policy advisor to the federal ministers for Road Safety on matters related to delivering safe roads, vehicles, speeds, and people, and will draw together interdisciplinary expertise and experience to learn, share and channel effort towards proven approaches to reducing national road trauma. In doing this, it will work collaboratively with counterpart agencies across the states and territories, as well as expert agencies such as Austroads.

It will actively seek partnerships to develop and prioritise proposals that achieve these reductions and we look forward to working with you to develop these partnerships.

Stakeholder Roundtables

The more detailed development of the Office's ongoing role and functions will best be informed by feedback from key stakeholders. We plan to formally commence this process with a Road Safety Stakeholders Round Table in Canberra once the outcome of the forthcoming Council meetings are known – most likely late August or early September. Further information and invitations to the event will be issued in the coming weeks.

Next Steps

A standalone recruitment process will be undertaken shortly to fill the Head of Office position, and in the interim, Sue Tucker will continue to act as General Manager for the Office and the Deputy Secretary, Transport, will have overarching responsibility for road safety matters within the department.

We look forward to working together with you to ensure that we provide genuine leadership on national road trauma reduction.

Please don't hesitate to contact officeofroadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au should you have any questions.