

## Minutes

### Recreational Motor Vehicle and Safety Group - Meeting

**Date** 8 September 2022 **Time** 1:00pm to 2:30pm

**Place** Via Skype

**Chair** Melissa Cummins (MC), A/Executive Director (Legislation, Standards & Accreditation)

**Minute taker** Andrew Millard, Principal Advisor (Vehicle Standards)

<b>Attendees</b>			<b>Presence</b>
NB	Nigel Bishop	Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association	Present
MB	Miles Brennan (MB)	Australian Recreational Motorists Association	Present
CC	Colin Chapman	Australian Street Rod Federation	Absent
JP	Jason Plant (JP)	Caravanning Queensland Association	Absent
AB	Anant Bellary	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
NzB	Natasha Basso	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SH	Scott Hall (SH)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SzH	Simon Hicks	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SL	Shane Lonsdale (SL)	Department of Transport and Main Roads	Present
SR	Shane Rose	Four Wheel Drive Queensland Association	Absent
BR	Bailey Rowe	Historical Motorcycle Club of QLD	Present
PB	Peter Blanshard	Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers	Present
MS	Malcolm Spiden	MG Car Club	Present
JG	John Greene (JG)	Mustang Owners Club of Australia	Present
DY	Doug Young (DY)	Queensland Historic Motoring Council	Present
JT	Joel Tucker	RACQ	Absent

#### Papers

(1) Agenda

#### Agenda

1. Introduction and Welcome
2. Previous Meeting Summary
3. Government election commitment update
4. Update on Written-Off Vehicle reforms
5. Update on TMR Vehicle Standards work program
6. Modifying vehicle engine types
7. Flood impacted caravans
8. Heavy vehicle brake testing
9. Any other business

**Actions from the last meeting**

<b>Task Owner</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Due date</b>	<b>Status</b>
DY	DY to send further information re vehicle export requirements to JG (refer to Agenda item 2).	8 September	Completed
TMR	PH to review SIVS application requirements when they are processed at Customer Service Centres, and review any other issues that arise as they relate to the broader topic of SIVS eligibility and membership.	8 September	Completed

**Agenda Items**

<b>Agenda 1</b>	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b>
Melissa Cummins	MC welcomed RMVSG members to the September 2022 meeting and noted that circumstances again meant the meeting would need to be held remotely rather than in person.

<b>Agenda 2</b>	<b>Previous Meeting Summary</b>
Melissa Cummins	<p>JG clarified that he had been seeking additional information regarding vehicle export issues. DY provided this information to JG via email during the course of the meeting, completing this action.</p> <p>MC confirmed all actions from the 17 March 2022 meeting were now completed.</p> <p>There were no apologies received for the meeting.</p>

<b>Agenda 3</b>	<b>Government election commitment update</b>
Scott Hall	<p>SH provided a status update on government election commitments made in advance of the 2020 state election.</p> <p>ITMM have now tasked the NTC to undertake a review of light vehicle modification standards. Further information relevant to this review will be shared with the group as it becomes available.</p> <p>SH introduced AB to the group to provide an update on TMR's review of modification standards.</p> <p>AB explained that the scope of the review will include significant modifications to production vehicles and individually constructed vehicles (ICVs). Significant modifications are those that have a modification code associated with them.</p>

	<p>Modification to street rod vehicles and vehicles with two or three wheels are not in scope as part of this review.</p> <p>MB expressed his support for uniformity, and to legislation modification standards. The movement of vehicles across state borders has been a source of some frustration for the owners of modified vehicles. NB echoed the call for more clarity across state borders.</p> <p>MC informed the group that a two-page summary of the review will be distributed to members of the group.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	AB to send a summary document of the modification standards review to the group.

<b>Agenda 4</b>	<b>Update on Written-Off Vehicle reforms</b>
Simon Hicks	<p>Simon outlined that TMR has been undertaking a review of Queensland's existing written off vehicle scheme. This review commenced because of the recent Parliamentary Transport and Resources Committee inquiry. A stakeholder roundtable event was hosted by TMR on 28 June 2022, covering matters including quality of repair, the NSW written-off vehicle scheme, and the interstate movement of written-off vehicles. TMR's review into the written-off vehicle scheme will seek to explore all aspects of the scheme and will propose a future model based on the review findings.</p>

<b>Agenda 5</b>	<b>Update on TMR Vehicle Standards work program</b>
Simon Hicks	<p>Simon provided an update on the work currently being undertaken by TMR's Vehicle Standards Unit. In addition to the review of the Queensland written-off vehicle scheme, work continues on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a range of factsheets and safety videos, covering bicycle racks, and the use, purchasing and towing of caravans;</li> <li>• new modification codes addressing gross combination mass (GCM) and gross vehicle mass (GVM);</li> <li>• the finalisation of modification codes to raise internal height limits;</li> <li>• the completion of further reforms related to the programmed vehicle inspection scheme;</li> <li>• the development of noise enforcement education videos to be used by TMR Transport Inspectors;</li> <li>• the passage of amendments to the <i>Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995</i> to clarify the definition of GVM and to streamline the evidentiary requirements for the prosecution of noise related offences; and</li> <li>• the review of light vehicle modification standards.</li> </ul> <p>MB offered to provide assistance to TMR for the production of future safety videos, including providing the contact details of trainers and club members to TMR if needed.</p>

<b>Agenda 6</b>	<b>Modifying vehicle engine types</b>
John Greene	<p>JG enquired about whether there are documents to guide vehicle owners for the conversion of vehicles from internal combustion motors to electric motors.</p> <p>SH clarified that for vehicles over 4.5t GVM, this would be a matter for the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR). For light vehicles, SL noted that modification codes for these conversions are contained within the <i>LV section</i> of VSB14. He also noted that while there are no corresponding heavy vehicle modification codes, the NHVR is likely providing approvals that are vehicle identification number (VIN) specific for heavy vehicle modifications.</p>

<b>Agenda 7</b>	<b>Flood impacted caravans</b>
John Greene	<p>JG asked if there had been any further developments regarding the management of flood impacted caravans.</p> <p>MC advised that she and SH had met with Caravan Queensland to discuss this topic. For vehicles to be classified as written-off, they must first be deemed to be a total economic loss. As some flood impacted caravans were not deemed to be a total economic loss, they were therefore ineligible to be classified as written-off vehicles. The scope of the current written-off vehicle scheme review will include the total economic loss calculation.</p> <p>MC added that TMR collaborated with Caravan Queensland to distribute social media messaging relevant to the purchase of potentially flood impacted caravans. TMR is currently preparing further messaging about general caravan safety and advice for prospective purchasers.</p>

<b>Agenda 8</b>	<b>Heavy vehicle brake testing</b>
John Greene	<p>JG asked about the procedures for testing the brake systems of heavy vehicles. In particular, a requirement that the vehicle is driven by the heavy vehicle examiner, as the examiner may be unfamiliar with the vehicle.</p> <p>SH confirmed that the testing requirements for heavy vehicles are set by the NHVR. SL added that he confirmed with the NHVR that their testing protocol allows for the vehicle to be driven by the vehicle owner.</p>

<b>Agenda 9</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>
	<p>MB noted the ongoing issue among members of his association of misaligned modification requirements between jurisdictions. MB supports moves toward harmonisation, acknowledging that there may be some resistance from some individuals. Furthermore, MB will be open to providing assistance to TMR in distributing messaging.</p> <p>PB raised the New South Wales written-off vehicle scheme, and how it has facilitated VIN harvesting from written-off vehicles. This can happen when the vehicle owner receives a payment for the damaged vehicle, alongside the vehicle itself, which is never recorded as a statutory write-off. PB asked if this sort of issue will be in scope for the Queensland review.</p>

MC confirmed that TMR looks forward to working collaboratively with stakeholders during the written-off vehicle review process to identify all areas for possible reform.

PB was glad that the TMR review is seeking to be robust, and to include the schemes that are in use in other jurisdictions.

PB raised the matter of electric vehicles and first responders. Currently, there is no legislation in place to prevent vehicle owners from modifying electric vehicle systems, such as through an increase in the vehicle's voltage.

Actions	Meeting date	Due date
AB to send a summary document of the modification standards review to the group.	<b>8 September 2022</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>

**Date of next meeting to be confirmed.**

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