



INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT MINISTERS

Statement of Expectations

For the National Transport Commission For the period to 31 December 2024

This Statement of Expectations outlines in a formal and public way, the expectations of Infrastructure and Transport Ministers¹ ('Ministers') concerning the operations and performance of the National Transport Commission (NTC) to 31 December 2024. The strategic direction in this Statement is given in accordance with clause 8(a) of the Performance Based Framework agreed by the Ministers applying from 1 January 2022².

Ministers expect the Commissioners for the NTC to help position the NTC to meet the priorities and directives of Ministers, and any matters referred to it by Ministers, by developing legislative and regulatory reforms, workable implementation strategies, and undertaking reform evaluations; with the backing of a workforce with the requisite skills and capabilities to achieve these outcomes.

As Commissioners for the NTC, it is expected that you will:

- act as an expert adviser to Ministers on reform development, implementation and evaluation, alongside the Infrastructure and Transport Senior Officials' Committee (ITSOC) which has accountability to Ministers for the delivery of national reforms;
- ensure the NTC maintains responsibility for its core reform role and ongoing regulatory and law reform alongside the jurisdictions, which are responsible as departments of state;
- ensure the NTC acts in accordance with the *National Transport Commission Act 2003* (NTC Act), the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), the Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport (the Intergovernmental Agreement) as well as other relevant legislation and legal instruments;
- support the objectives of the Intergovernmental Agreement, including having due regard to the impact of reforms on infrastructure and regional and remote areas;
- align work program priorities with the 'Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting Priorities and 12 Month Work Plan';
- ensure governance of the NTC with regard to the performance based framework agreed by Ministers and the Ministers' response to the recommendations of the 2021 Review of the NTC; and
- ensure that the Ministers and ITSOC are kept fully informed of NTC's actions in relation to agreed initiatives and activities, and alerted to events or issues that may impact on the operations and performance of the NTC, including through the provision of timely reports of progress against the Corporate Plan and work program.

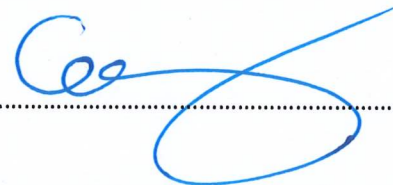
Additionally, Ministers expectations are that the NTC will:

1. Develop, maintain and negotiate national and model law as tasked by Ministers, and develop national regulatory systems to secure the highest possible degree of national consistency, and beneficial policy outcomes in line with Ministerial priorities and objectives.
2. Undertake research or other work, as directed by Ministers, to support law reform and broader strategic transport policy.

¹ Infrastructure and Transport Ministers are responsible for the NTC, as an inter-jurisdictional transport body covered by the Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Road, Rail and Intermodal Transport ('the Intergovernmental Agreement'). The Commonwealth is the host jurisdiction for the NTC as a statutory body established under its laws.

² The revised statement was approved by Ministers on 8 June 2023, for the period commencing 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024. The revised statement will remain in place from this time, until further revisions are agreed.

3. Support the delivery of the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting priorities as agreed in the 'Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting Priorities and 12 Month Work Plan'.³
4. Work closely with ITSOC in the development and ongoing monitoring of NTC's Corporate Plan, annual work program and budget, to ensure timeliness and appropriate prioritisation.
5. Strengthen the formal working relationships with the national regulators to improve collaboration and sharing and ensure harmonised and complementary work programs;
6. Conduct reform planning⁴ taking account of objectives, outputs, budget, and accountabilities for the development of reforms through to delivery by jurisdictions, but not at the risk of slowing down reforms; and support ITSOC in its policy leadership role.
7. Work closely with ITSOC on effective, appropriate and transparent stakeholder engagement⁵ taking into consideration the consultation burden on industry.
8. Maintain robust, effective and collaborative working relationships with jurisdictions, the transport industries and other national transport entities, particularly the national regulators, other advisory bodies and the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure, Transport Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, to ensure the effective implementation of Ministers priorities by consensus, while also retaining independence in carrying out core duties. Given the diversity of the transport sectors, NTC should actively engage with stakeholders, including industry in undertaking reforms.
9. Monitor and provide independent annual reform assessments to Ministers⁶ providing an objective analysis of the success or failure, including comment on any issues or problems with NTC or jurisdictional roles and performance.
10. Create a culture for performance⁷ that effectively carries out Ministers' priorities with available resources, expertise and systems.
11. Adhere to a set of values and a code of conduct that maintain high standards of professionalism, service, probity, reporting, integrity, accountability and transparency, consistent with Governments' aims of excellence in the public sector.



Chair, Infrastructure and Transport Ministers' Meeting

10 AUG 2023

(date)

³ Including: Decarbonisation of transport and infrastructure; Market capacity constraints affecting the construction industry; Improving interoperability of rail systems and streamlining approvals processes for national transport infrastructure projects; Heavy vehicle productivity; Road Safety Action Plan.

⁴ Consistent with clauses 3, 4 and 5 of the performance based framework.

⁵ As per clause 6 of the performance based framework

⁶ As per clauses 7 and 8 of the performance based framework

⁷ As per clauses 9 and 10 of the performance based framework