



A message from the CEO

CEO Update 13/11

This afternoon I will be attending the Premier's Industry Response Council, working with other industry associations to support the Government in South Australia's economic recovery.

As I prepare for this meeting, it's pleasing to hear some good news for Christmas travel that Victorians, including those from Melbourne, will be able to travel in South Australia with no restrictions by December 1, provided no mysterious COVID cases emerge.

After Victoria recorded zero new COVID-19 cases for 14 days in a row, this will mean no traveller will need to quarantine when crossing the border from Victoria and represents a significant milestone in the reopening of national borders and the economy.

State Budget 2020-21

On Tuesday the State Government handed down its long awaited and much anticipated State Budget. In a bid to address the ongoing effects of COVID-19 on the economy, there has been an unprecedented level of spending on initiatives aimed at stimulating business activity, driving infrastructure and boosting employment.

The Government is supporting business through the announcement of [Round 2 of the \\$10,000 Small Business Grants](#) for businesses that remain impacted by COVID-19. Also for the first time, sole traders who operate from a fixed commercial premise are also eligible for grants of \$3,000.

Applications are open now until midnight 14 December 2020 [click here to apply now](#).

A reminder that your one stop shop for Government grants and assistance can be found on our [website](#) and our staff are always available to talk with you about what support you are entitled to!

A [12-month payroll tax exemption on wages paid to new eligible apprentices](#) is yet another boost to unprecedented support of apprentices and the Government has also confirmed an [extension of payroll tax relief](#) to support businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We also finally have direction on South Road and the future of the North South Corridor, with the Government announcing that 390 commercial and residential properties are expected to be acquired from next year. We now also know that [the project will be delivered through a mix of tunnels and grade-level crossings](#).

The State Government also announced a range of measures relating to the future of electric vehicles in South Australia, including infrastructure funding for a Statewide Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Network. However, the Government also signalled a road user charge for electric vehicles together with a variable charge based on distanced travelled.

The EV announcements send mixed messages to consumers and I appeared on [ABC Radio](#) (starting at around 4 minutes in) to speak about the topic and why it should ultimately be dealt with at a national level.

Motorcycle Graduated Licensing Scheme

On Thursday Road Safety Minister Vincent Tarzia introduced proposed laws aimed at protecting riders and reducing the number of motorcycle deaths in South Australia.

The proposed changes include raising the minimum age for a learner's permit from 16 to 18, or 17 if holding a provisional car licence. 16 year olds living in regional South Australia will be able to obtain a learner's permit if travelling for education, work or sport.

After consultation with MTA members and lobbying of the State Government spanning more than two years, we are pleased to see that the Government has listened to the concerns of Motorcycle Industry Association SA members.

However, we remain concerned that the proposed law doesn't address the issue of older riders getting back on a high powered motorbike after a long period of not riding, as well as the quality of training delivered. We will continue to raise these issues with Government.

Road Safety TV Campaign

On Monday [ANCAP Safety launched a national community awareness campaign](#) demonstrating how the presence of key vehicle safety technologies - autonomous emergency braking (AEB) and lane support systems (LSS) - can help turn a potentially negative outcome into a positive one.

The campaign strengthens our arguments for vehicle inspections at change of ownership in South Australia, as well as driving community awareness of the availability, function and benefits of vehicles fitted with AEB and LSS. The campaign encourages consumer uptake of newer vehicles with these collision avoidance features to help save lives.



Electronic Work Diaries for heavy vehicle drivers

As of 1 December, 2020, heavy vehicle drivers will have a choice in how they record their work and rest hours. The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) has approved the first Electronic Work Diaries (EWD).

NHVR Chair, Duncan Gay, said that the announcement “will enable companies and drivers to more effectively focus on managing their fatigue, rather than managing the book – which is an important step forward in delivering improved fatigue safety outcomes”.

More details are available from NHVR by [clicking here](#).

Regards
Paul Unerkov
MTA SA/NT CEO

