

Minutes of Meeting



Government
of South Australia

Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

SUBJECT: Industry/DIT meeting

Date: 22 February 2023

Start: 1.30pm

From: 2.45pm

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport acknowledges the Kurna Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land we meet on today and recognises their continuing connection to land and waters. We pay our respects to the diversity of cultures; significance of contributions and to Elders past, present and emerging.

ATTENDEES: Andre Simmonds, Clare Heathcote, Stephen Melville, Stuart Gilbert, Linda Jackson, Elio Pisaniello, Alvin Jupp, Renata Bonetti, David Whomes, Matthew Woodman

1. Welcome and Apologies (by Clare Heathcote)
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
3. Business Arising from the Minutes (Action Items) [DOCS AND FILES-#19943203-Appendix A - Industry Meeting Action List 2023](#)

1. Welcome and apologies

Clare Heathcote (CH) welcomed everyone in attendance. There were no apologies.

2. Previous minutes

Minutes of meeting held on 19 October 2022 were accepted as correct by David Whomes.

3. Business arising from the Minutes

3.1 Elio Pisaniello asked for further clarification on filling out of the Certificate of Competency (COC) in particular the Restrictions box.

The requirements for filling out the Certificate of Competency (COC) were explained by Kath Bower (KB) and according to current policy, Service SA are required to accept the COC with the restriction box 'left blank or marked with a line'.

Policy states that:

'the restrictions box does not need to be completed by the Authorised Examiner. Authorised Examiners will be advised to place a line through the restrictions box but even if it is left blank, staff should still accept the COC.'

Note Taker: K Bower

File: 2021/17499/01

Document No: 19900844

The December bulletin stated that all parts of the COC are to be completed, the transmission box must be completed, and the restrictions box must be marked with a line.

4. ADTA

4.1 DIT/Industry Meeting Minutes access via DIT website or other public forum

Industry would like to post the meeting minutes on their website for members to access and sought confirmation from DIT to do this. DIT have no issue with this occurring.

4.2 ADTASA member complaint regarding time spent at Service SA paying for Authorised Examiner (AE) annual appointment fee

Linda Jackson (LJ) advised DIT that members are waiting excessively long periods of time at Service SA centres to pay for their AE endorsement and asked why they cannot make a payment for the transaction via their EzyReg account.

There also seems to lack of knowledge by the staff at Service SA on the process required to transact the payment resulting in long waits times whilst staff consult with others on how to complete the transaction.

Action 1: DIT to investigate the opportunity for payment of the Authorised Examiner endorsement to be made available online by EzyReg.

Action 2: The lack of understanding by Service SA staff can be addressed by requesting the process is explained clearly on their knowledge management system.

4.3 'L' plate size for large vehicles

Industry asked what the requirements are for displaying 'L' plates on trucks and buses.

DIT advised that a 'plate' is a required under current regulation. It must be yellow with black writing and is a regulation size of 14.5cm x 14.5cm. The plate can be bigger if preferred and must be clearly visible from the front and rear of the vehicle.

Industry members asked if an electronic sign would be acceptable for the large vehicles, and DIT advised that they are allowed, however the regulation 'L' plate must still be displayed in conjunction with the sign.

4.4 Number of seats in vehicles for testing in Class 'Car'

LJ asked what the options are for drivers being assessed in their own vehicle when the vehicle, such as a utility, only has two seats? DIT advised that there are no exemptions to allow an assessment to be undertaken unless the vehicle has three seats.

4.5 7.30am Sunday start times

CH contacted Traffic Management regarding the start times for assessments being earlier on a Sunday and their traffic counters have recognised no significant difference in traffic volume on a Sunday. CH noted that they are scheduling roadworks at this time as it is known to be a quiet time. No change will be made to start times for assessments at this time.

4.6 Online Learner test

Renata Bonetti advised that she has experienced an increase in new students having very limited knowledge of the road rules despite having completed the online learners testing modules.

The following issues were identified as contributors to this issue:

- Student are spending as little as one week online undertaking the learners' testing modules. (Not having to pay multiple times for a test anymore, means they spend less time learning the road rules and practising 'give-way' scenarios and may be doing the bare minimum to complete the online modules to proceed to a Learners Permit).
- Students lack awareness of their surroundings due to using mobile phones whilst being a passenger.
- Parents do not seem to be as proactive in their children's driving training and rely on instructors.
- Industry members think students may seek assistance from others to complete the testing modules as there is no way of validating their knowledge after the online learning is complete.

Students should be made aware that the MyL's learning tool is available for 12 months and instructors can encourage them to revisit sections of it. DIT also advised that parents could be made aware of a student's lack of awareness and how parents can help.

Action: DIT advised there will be further discussion with relevant parties to see if a solution can be found to better validate students learning outcomes in the future.

4.7 Sourcing Mitcham start location

LJ advised industry members are motivated to get this testing start point back up and running and as they are trying to be proactive, they would like to know what they can do to help with this process. AS advised that the main reason Mitcham was closed was to transition to the hub model and Park Holme was to service these clients with a larger group of routes starting in the same place. Mitcham was not seen as a suitable location after the hub model was introduced.

There was a general discussion regarding various roadblocks encountered whilst trying to find suitable start locations and hubs including some for the Modbury area. Some councils and shopping centres are not interested in allowing their sites to be used as testing start points. Matthew Woodman offered some suggestions for suitable starting location out in the northern suburbs and was encourage by CH to submit information on these to DIT for consideration.

Action 1: DIT will revisit the idea of reintroducing new start points for Mitcham and Modbury.

Action 2: Industry are encouraged to provide information on any locations that they deem suitable and DIT will investigate these.

4.8. Booking system timing out too quickly

Elio Pisaniello advised he was experiencing frustration recently with the EzyReg systems logging out within a few minutes of no activity.

DIT advised that the Two Factor Authentication process provided with the last bulletin to all Authorised Examiners included an email address specifically for examiners to use to provide feedback and log any issues encountered with logging in. To allow problems to be identified and addressed promptly, they are encouraged to use the email address and specifically identify themselves as an authorised examiner in the email.

4.9 Early learner test

Industry queried why students are allowed to register for the MyL's learning tool prior to turning sixteen years of age.

DIT advised that many students wish to obtain their Learners Permit as soon as they turn sixteen and for a student to do this, they are able to attend a Service SA centre to establish their identity and create a profile, at the age of 15 years and 9 months. This then allows them to access the MyL's learning and assessment courses online and once they have successfully completed the training/learning modules they can then apply for their Learner's Permit once they turn sixteen.

PDTA

5.1 Ausroads national approach with heavy vehicles and DIT

David Whomes asked where DIT sit with regards to the national approach to heavy vehicle training reform. DIT is participating in the consultation process and the national approach is now being finalised.

Discussion regarding the options being considered has taken place and the Ausroads website provided a paper on the proposals and was open to comment by industry and interested parties.

5.2 Sunday start times

Discussed in Action Item 4.5.

5.3 Reform status or new direction

DW asked for a progress update.

DIT advised there is nothing to report to date. CH advised that once the Minister has made a decision, he will take it to Cabinet for approval and a public announcement will occur with a significant lead time for any changes to be made.

5.4 Flinders Park CBT start point

Addressed in item 4.7.

5.5 New start points for Mitcham and Modbury - update

Addressed in item 4.7.

5.6 Take up of the deed

The ADTA requested an amendment to the deed originally provided by DIT for approval to allow DIT camera footage to be supplied in the case of an incident in the Motor Driving Instructor's vehicle. Crown has advised that the Deed should not be amended as requested and that further advice on other mechanisms are being considered with the Crown including the possibility that similar provision to that used by insurance companies to access information may be available.

5.7 VORT Manual progress

DW asked if the VORT and CBT&A manuals are going onto the DIT website for access by Authorised Examiner.

AS advised that the CBT&A manual is already available however the VORT manual update is still a work in progress

Action: DIT to continue with the VORT manual update

5.8 Outcome of sounding the horn in Task 30

Industry members would like this removed from Task 30.

6 DIT items

6.1 Deed poll (MDI vehicle) update

Addressed in item **5.6** above.

6.2 Ultra high-powered (UHP) vehicle licensing requirements

CH informed those present that there will be a new class of licence for UHP vehicles. Legislation is being developed and an online training course will be required for drivers seeking this new licence class. This change will not affect industry members and will appear on a driver's licence card as a new class.

7 Other business

EP enquired whether Yard Permits are still available and if so, how a person applies for one. DW asked DIT to clarify the process for industry members.

AS advised that these permits are still available, and that he will communicate the process to obtain one via the next bulletin to all industry members.

Action: DIT to advise industry via the bulletin on the correct procedure to follow to obtain a Yard Permit.

8 Next meeting is Wednesday 10th May 2023 at 1.30pm

9 Meeting closed at 2.45pm