



# Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Review of the Vehicle Dimensions and Mass Rule 2002: Release of Discussion Document

**Portfolio**                      **Transport**

On 2 December 2015, the Cabinet Economic Growth and Infrastructure Committee:

- 1        **noted** that the review of the Land Transport Rule: Vehicle Dimensions and Mass 2002 (the VDAM Rule) is included in the 2015/16 Transport Rules Programme for policy investigation [EGI-15-MIN-0071];
- 2        **noted** that the purpose of the review is to investigate whether the VDAM Rule is effective, reflects the government's commitment to better regulation, and supports open and efficient transport markets;
- 3        **noted** that the proposals to change the VDAM Rule are intended to encourage innovation in New Zealand's vehicle fleet, especially commercial heavy vehicles, to allow the fleet to efficiently and safely respond to the expected increase in demand for road freight and passenger services;
- 4        **noted** that the discussion document on *Review of the Vehicle Dimensions and Mass (VDAM) Rule: Discussion Document* (the discussion document), attached to the submission under EGI-15-SUB-0162, presents proposals for changes to vehicle dimensions and mass limits, and permitting arrangements for heavy vehicles;
- 5        **noted** that the main proposals in the discussion document are to:
  - Increase vehicle productivity**
    - 5.1      increase the mass limit for general access to the roading network from 44 tonne to 45 tonne for 8 axle vehicles;
    - 5.2      allow small increases in allowable mass for other axle categories;
    - 5.3      reduce the weighing tolerance from 1,500kg to 500kg for gross masses of 11,000kg or heavier;
    - 5.4      increase the maximum allowable vehicle width from 2.50m to 2.55m;
    - 5.5      increase the maximum allowable vehicle height from 4.25m to 4.30m;

**Reduce compliance costs**

- 5.6 allow the 50MAX class of heavy vehicle to operate on the 50MAX roading network without permit;
  - 5.7 allow crane boom sections to be transported in single rather than multiple loads;
  - 5.8 give road controlling authorities authority to approve a greater range of heavy vehicles and specialised loads;
- 6 **agreed** to the release of the discussion document, subject to any minor or editorial changes that may be required;
- 7 **noted** that Cabinet approval will be sought for the public release of a draft amendment Rule and associated Regulatory Impact Statement, which will be prepared following consideration of the submissions received on the discussion document;
- 8 **noted** that the paper under EGI-15-SUB-0162 and related Cabinet decisions will be published online, subject to consideration of any deletions that would be justified if the information had been requested under the Official Information Act 1982.

Committee Secretary

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