



## Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: MC104486

**13 DEC 2018**

1 William Street Brisbane 4000  
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone +61 7 3719 7300**  
**Email** [transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au)  
**Website** [www.tmr.qld.gov.au](http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au)

Mr Peter Fraser  
Director  
Scooters Australia Pty Ltd  
PO Box 362  
GOULBURN NSW 2580

Dear Mr Fraser *Peter,*

Thank you for your letter of 4 October 2018 to the Honourable Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads, about motorised mobility scooters and wheelchairs. The Minister has asked that I respond on his behalf.

I acknowledge your concerns regarding the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport inquiry into the need for regulation of motorised mobility devices (MMDs). The committee's final report highlights that following the publication of a new technical specification for MMDs by Standards Australia (TS 3695.3.2018), amendments will be made to the *Australian Road Rules* (ARR) to adopt the specification. It is proposed that this will be achieved through an Austroads project, led by Queensland. If approved, the project will consult with experts in the field and other Australian jurisdictions. Please note that any regulatory changes will be subject to a regulatory impact assessment (RIA), that will explore the impact of any proposed amendments on the community and businesses.

I understand that the key aim of the specification was to improve safety outcomes for users on footpaths and public infrastructure, and to make it easier for users to identify what devices are suitable for their purposes, such as access to public transportation. The specification was developed through an extensive national consultation process.

The purpose of adopting the specification into regulation is to give it legal effect. This would restrict the use of non-compliant or unsafe devices on public infrastructure. I appreciate your concerns that this may negatively impact Scooters Australia Pty Ltd, as well as users of small portable MMDs that do not comply with the new standard. These issues will be investigated further through the RIA process.

I also note your concerns about banning Class A devices. I am advised that there is no intention to ban Class A devices. Rather, Class A devices that meet the requirements could continue to be used. I am also assured that any decision to amend ARR would not take immediate effect, providing sufficient lead time for implementation for consumers and companies such as yours.

I am confident that the project team will give due consideration to your feedback.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**TAM VAN ALPHEN**  
CHIEF OF STAFF