

MEDIA STATEMENT

21 August 2018

Safety speak! Truckie Toolbox Talks tour the state

The education-only Truckie Toolbox Talks are being rolled out around the state this month, with road safety continuing to be a top priority.

Transport and Main Roads Director General Neil Scales said the government continued to take a proactive approach to working with the trucking industry to improve heavy vehicle standards and promote a safer road network across Queensland.

“We have several educational events coming up across the state, with events for Port of Brisbane (23 August), Maryborough (30 August) and Cairns (31 August),” Mr Scales said.

“These events will give heavy vehicle drivers and operators an opportunity to talk with our transport inspectors about a range of operational topics.

“Our people and other industry representatives will be available to answer questions on a wide range of topics including regulations, accreditations, permits, notices, dangerous goods, mass limits, route planning, fatigue management, load restraints and chain of responsibility.”

Mr Scales said the program continued to generate interest, with attendance numbers continuing to grow, since the first talk in Gatton three years ago.

“The positive feedback from industry stakeholders and heavy vehicle operators has continued to increase over the years,” he said.

“We’ve changed the way we deliver these events to drive the idea the talks are about education rather than enforcement.

“One of the biggest changes attendees will notice is our transport inspectors have swapped their uniforms for plain clothes to really show we’re here to answer questions.

“Two of the events this year coincide with Queensland Road Safety Week (27-31 August 2018), an annual initiative that focuses on the impact of road trauma and behaviours to reduce it.

“In 2018 the campaign will highlight different road user groups, including heavy vehicle drivers.

“The aim of these Truckie Toolbox Talks is the same as Road Safety Week, but all year round.

“We want to work with our heavy vehicle industry and operators to assist them in improving the safety and procedures of their industry, which is ultimately a win for all road users in Queensland.

“Look out for more information about these and other upcoming truckie toolbox talks in your area on roadside Variable Message Signs, TMR’s Facebook and your local customer service centre, or call 13 23 80.”

For more information on heavy vehicles, visit <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Heavy-vehicles>.

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