

August 2011

Registration of Local Government Entities to the Traffic Management Registration Scheme

In September 2009 the Workplace Rights Ombudsman, Don Brown released his report into the Contract Traffic Control Industry in Queensland.

In his report, Commissioner Brown made a recommendation that: "The Government introduce a licensing regime for business operators providing services of traffic controllers to third parties under contract".

In February 2010, it was announced that the Department of Transport and Main Roads would introduce a registration system for all traffic management companies working on state-controlled roads.

The requirements of this scheme are in addition to the existing requirement that individual traffic controllers be licensed.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads has been working collaboratively with the traffic management industry and the unions to develop a way to ensure all traffic management companies meet minimum safety and quality standards.

This registration scheme will greatly contribute to enhancing the level of professionalism in the industry.

Registration is mandatory for all traffic management companies working on state-controlled roads.

Why: objectives of the registration scheme

The objectives of the Traffic Management Company Registration Scheme are to:

- Improve safety for road workers and traffic controllers
- Increase consistency of approach to the travelling public and to employees
- Remove complacency in the industry.

Who: affected organisations

It is estimated that there are about 100 traffic management companies in Queensland, with approximately 27,000 licensed traffic controllers. The Traffic Management Company Registration Scheme will affect the majority of these companies.

Additionally, the scheme will affect anyone providing traffic management or traffic control services on state-controlled roads, including local government.

When: timeframe

Implementation of this scheme began on 1 June 2010. From February 2011 only registered traffic management companies have been permitted to provide traffic management services on state-controlled roads.

How to become registered

Registration requirements

This scheme requires demonstration of:

- Occupational Health and Safety: Through the Local Government SAFE PLAN WH&S Management Improvement Program, or through JAS-ANZ accredited 3rd party certification to AS/NZS 4801-2001 for self insured councils or councils not using the SAFE PLAN system
- Quality: Through the Department of Transport and Main Roads' 2nd party certification process or JAS-ANZ accredited 3rd party certification to ISO9001:2008, or through a quality management system similar to the CCF IMS system.
- Industrial relations: Self assessment on a similar approach to VicRoads, including relevant awards that are acceptable in Queensland
- Personnel: staff whose major role is traffic control will need to have ratios of training levels, as below:
 - All traffic controllers are to be accredited
 - 1 in 2 employees, on each controlled job site, must have level 2 traffic management training.
 - 1 in 30 employees must have level 3 traffic management training.

- 1 employee per depot/centre must have level 4 traffic management training
- All training to be through TMR approved courses
- Traffic management experience demonstrated by:
 - Three recent projects (including client referees)
 - One traffic management plan developed and implemented by the company

Outcome

Registration is for a three year term with the ability of the department to remove or suspend registration at anytime.

Existing prequalified construction contractors are given an option of including registration for traffic management in their prequalification renewal.

De-registration

The department may remove a registrant from the register at any time.

An appeals process has been developed to manage de-registration and failure to obtain registration.

Monitoring Performance

To remove complacency within the industry, the department will:

- Undertake assessments on site, at any time. This will be done by authorised Department of Transport and Main Roads staff during their normal duties using an audit checklist developed by the department. For registered traffic management companies this may also occur on projects other than those on state-controlled roads.
- Issues relating to industrial relations will be referred to the Department of Justice and Attorney General.
- A complaints register for public and other complaints will be developed.

Contact us

We welcome your comments in relation to the registration of traffic management companies.

Please submit feedback or enquires to:
tmcregistration@tmr.qld.gov.au

Frequently Asked Questions

Do all local government entities need to be registered?

Any company that wishes to provide traffic control or traffic management services on state-controlled roads must be registered.

How do local government entities become registered?

Application forms, conditions of registration and guidelines will be available on the Department of Transport and Main Roads website: www.tmr.qld.gov.au

How long does registration last?

Registration will last for three years.

What are local government entities' responsibilities under the registration scheme?

This new scheme will require local governments to demonstrate safety, quality and consistency within their organisational processes. It will also focus on factors including occupational health and safety, industrial relations and appropriate training of the workforce.

If we are already an existing pre qualified contractor with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, do we still have to register under this scheme?

Yes. This is a different register and does require evaluation under different elements (e.g. AS/NZS 4801:2001). Existing prequalified contractors will be given an option of including registration of traffic management in their prequalification renewal.

If you are an existing registered pre qualified contractor with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, can you have the registration expiry dates align?

Yes. Specify in a cover letter that you wish this to occur and provide a copy of your prequalification approval letter.

Will this scheme impact our current contracts/tenders with Transport and Main Roads if we are using non pre qualified traffic management companies?

If there is a pre existing contract/tender that is signed before 1 February 2011, there will be no impact. However if a contract/tender is signed on or after 1 February 2011, you are required to use a registered pre qualified traffic management company or be a registered pre qualified entity as stated under the amended MRTS02 7.3.12.1 Traffic Management Company or the supplementary conditions of your contract.

Who can I contact regarding training through Transport and Main Roads approved courses?

A list of approved trainers for different levels of traffic management can be found on the Department of Transport and Main Roads website: www.tmr.qld.gov.au