



Road Vehicle Standards Bill 2017

Proposed Cost Recovery Arrangements

The Road Vehicle Standards Bill 2017 is intended to replace the Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989 (MVSA) to implement the Australian Government's announced Reforms to the regulatory framework for the safety, environmental and anti-theft performance of all road vehicles being provided to the Australian market for the first time – both new and used. The reforms will deliver modernised legislation to increase community safety and remove unnecessary processes for businesses.

The Australian Government has released an Exposure Draft of the Road Vehicle Standards Bill for public information. The Bill will need to be debated and passed by both Houses of Parliament before it becomes law. This is expected to happen in 2018. More details are below.

Consistent with the Australian Government Charging Framework, the government proposes to recover the costs of activities undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (the department) that are related to administering the proposed Road Vehicle Standards Act (RVSA).

A new cost recovery model has been developed and options for charging structures have been outlined in a draft Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) that has been released for public consultation and feedback. Although this is a new model, it is not expected that costs for small business will increase – and may be reduced overall.

The final fees and charges will be set out in subsidiary legislation, which cannot be made until after parliament has passed the bills. Fees and charges will not change before 2019.

Consultation

The department is conducting a public consultation process on the draft Road Vehicle Standards legislation, including exploring options for cost recovery that are outlined in the draft CRIS, with industry. The outcomes of the consultation process will inform the government's decision on the fees and charges to apply under the proposed RVSA.

Cost Recovery Framework

The Australian Government Charging Framework and Australian Government Cost Recovery Guidelines establish the framework under which the Australian Government may charge the non-government sector for specific government activities, including the provision of goods, services and/or regulation. The Government's charging policy is:

“Where specific demand for a government activity is created by identifiable individuals or groups, they should be charged for it unless the government has decided to fund that activity. Where it is appropriate for the Australian Government to participate in an activity, it should fully utilise and maintain public resources, through appropriate charging. The application of charging should not, however, adversely impact disadvantaged Australians.”

Transitional arrangements

- Charging under the RVSA will commence 12 months after the Bill is passed by the Parliament.
- Fees payable under the MVSA will continue to apply to transactions under the saved provisions of the MVSA during the 12-month transitional period after commencement of the RVSA.
- Fees and charges under the MVSA will not change.

For further information

Please visit our website https://infrastructure.gov.au/vehicles/mv_standards_act/