

MEDIA RELEASE

8 December 2021

NEW TOOL LAUNCHED TO PROTECT QLD MOTORISTS AND ROAD WORKERS THIS CHRISTMAS

With easing border restrictions set to put more motorists on Queensland roads this month, a new tool has been launched to help protect the lives of roadworkers and users.

Changed and temporary traffic conditions at locations like roadworks, construction sites and hazard response sites, create significant risk on our roads, and sadly have proven fatal in recent months.

According to Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Queensland (IPWEAQ) Chief Executive Officer Leigh Cunningham, the institute has developed the Temporary Traffic Management Toolkit to help address these dangers.

“It is critical that temporary traffic measures are designed and implemented with the highest level of safety, given they are such a major factor in road safety alongside higher and lower volumes of traffic and congestion and prevalence of traffic lights,” Ms Cunningham said.

“While new national mandatory Austroads guidelines for low volume roads (the majority of Queensland roads) have just been launched, our Toolkit responds to concerns by those planning and providing public works and services that the time, cost and resourcing required to implement them will hinder compliance.”

With Queensland recording a 15.4 per cent increase in road deaths in the 12-month period ending October 2021 compared to the previous year¹, widespread implementation of these new safety standards is critical.

“We have developed the TTM Toolkit to remove these barriers to implementation and to save more lives, more quickly,” Ms Cunningham said.

“Temporary traffic management present risks on all classes of road, so the TTM Toolkit provides a consistent approach for the majority of metropolitan and regional settings and simplifies compliance for even the smallest of traffic planning teams.

“We need to keep all Queensland road workers and motorists safe, whether that involves those driving down the road or thousands of kilometres to reunite with family and friends this Christmas.”

¹ [Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications](#)

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Firmly supporting the development and implementation of the Temporary Traffic Management Toolkit, Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Chief Executive Officer Alison Smith said the safety of road workers and users is critical to all Queensland councils.

“As a decentralised state, Queensland has a wide variety of councils from Brisbane to Boulia and includes an ever-changing road environment, which is why our members called for a fit-for-purpose solution to temporary traffic management,” Ms Smith said.

“In Queensland, local government manage over 150,000 kilometres of roads, so IPWEAQ’s TTM Toolkit provides councils with the tools and guidance to achieve positive road safety outcomes appropriate to the level of risk when undertaking traffic management.”

As friends and families hit the road this festive season, drivers are encouraged to be aware of their surroundings and changed traffic conditions, practice safe driving and remain vigilant.

The [Temporary Traffic Management Toolkit](#) was developed by industry, for industry, supported by LGAQ and validated by Registered Professional Engineers of Queensland (RPEQ) and experienced designers representing all part of the sector. It includes a Traffic Management Plan, tools, templates and 115 traffic guidance schemes.

Opportunity for media to conduct interviews /obtain footage or photos of IPWEAQ Chief Executive Officer Leigh Cunningham on Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 December.

-ENDS-

About IPWEAQ

IPWEAQ is the peak body representing those working in the public works sector in Queensland. Anyone actively engaged in the delivery of public works and services in Queensland is eligible to join.

Our purpose is to enhance the quality of life for all Queensland communities by advancing the skills, knowledge, resources available to those involved in the planning and provision of public works and services.

About Temporary Traffic Management Toolkit

As a proactive Queensland-led initiative, IPWEAQ has developed the Temporary Traffic Management Toolkit to support the planning and design of safe, cost effective and efficient temporary traffic management solutions.

Responding to concerns raised by local councils about the capacity for industry adoption of the new and mandatory Austroads Guide to Temporary Traffic Management (AGTTM), the TTM Toolkit provides fit-for-purpose solutions to navigate a vast array of situations in which to increase safety outcomes for road workers and road users for short-term, low-impact work sites.

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