

1st August 2025

CompetitionTaskforce@treasury.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

Heavy Vehicle Industry Australia (HVIA) is the peak industry association for Australian manufacturers of trucks and trailers (collectively referred to as heavy vehicles), as well as the dealerships, repairers, suppliers, and service providers that support the entire industry. We represent every major truck manufacturer/importer, all of Australia's major trailer manufacturers, and an ever-growing list of their component, equipment and technology providers.

HVIA's 300-plus corporate members collectively employ a local workforce of over 70,000 staff. Our member's interests cover an extensive range of vehicles, starting with 3.5-tonne light commercial trucks, and extending all the way up to Australia's unique 50-metre long, 100-tonne road trains.

The industry provides some of the world's most efficient, safe, innovative, and technologically advanced vehicles. HVIA seeks to work with government and industry stakeholders to promote an innovative, safe and productive industry that supports a safe and sustainable heavy vehicle fleet operating for the benefit of all Australians.

HVIA appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Information Sharing Scheme. We acknowledge the scheme's intent to improve consumer choice and competition in light vehicle service and repair. However, we strongly oppose any consideration of extending this scheme to heavy vehicles.

Fundamental Differences between Light and Heavy Vehicle Sectors

The heavy vehicle industry operates under a vastly different framework compared to the light vehicle sector. Heavy vehicles are subject to complex regulatory, safety, and operational requirements, including:

- Specialised servicing and repair protocols that vary significantly across vehicle types
- Highly customised vehicle builds, often involving multiple component suppliers, making standardised information sharing impractical
- Existing commercial arrangements between manufacturers, dealers, and fleet operators that already govern access to service information

These differences mean that the current scheme for light vehicles is not appropriate for heavy vehicles.

No Evidence of Market Failure in the Heavy Vehicle Sector

The MVIS scheme was introduced to address perceived market failures in the light vehicle sector, particularly around access to service and repair information. In contrast, the heavy vehicle industry has not demonstrated similar issues:

NATIONAL OFFICE

2/115 Bluestone Circuit, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Queensland 4073 | PO Box 3080, Darra, Queensland 4076
07 3376 6266 | www.hvia.asn.au | hvia@hvia.asn.au | ABN 66 009 819 756

- Fleet operators typically have direct relationships with OEMs and authorised service networks
- Training and technical support are provided through established channels, including OEM programs and industry partnerships

Extending the scheme without clear evidence of market failure risks unnecessary regulatory burden and disruption to well-functioning industry practices.

Risk of Unintended Consequences

Applying the scheme to heavy vehicles could lead to:

- Reduced investment in innovation and support services by OEMs, if proprietary information must be disclosed broadly
- Safety and compliance risks, if repairers without appropriate training or equipment gain access to complex service data
- Legal and liability complications, particularly in relation to warranty, certification, and roadworthiness standards

These risks must be carefully considered before any expansion is contemplated.

HVIA strongly recommends that the Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Information Sharing Scheme not be extended to heavy vehicles. The unique characteristics of our industry, the absence of demonstrated market failure, and the potential for unintended consequences make such an expansion inappropriate.

We urge Treasury to maintain the current scope of the scheme and to engage directly with heavy vehicle stakeholders before considering any future changes.

Yours sincerely,



TODD HACKING
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

NATIONAL OFFICE

2/115 Bluestone Circuit, Seventeen Mile Rocks, Queensland 4073 | PO Box 3080, Darra, Queensland 4076
07 3376 6266 | www.hvia.asn.au | hvia@hvia.asn.au | ABN 66 009 819 756