

The NSW freight rail network plays a vital role in supporting our economy and reducing congestion on our roads. To address impacts from freight rail noise particularly at night, Transport for NSW is implementing the Strategic Noise Action Plan. The Plan includes three complimentary streams:

1. Reducing freight rail noise at source, including wheel squeal and brake noise;
2. Delivering noise reduction treatments at properties impacted by high levels of existing freight rail noise; and,
3. Improving planning controls to ensure rail noise is properly addressed at the design stage of future developments.

Stopping wheel squeal

Transport for NSW has identified that poor wagon steering is the root cause of wheel squeal. On 1 January 2018 Transport for NSW introduced a new standard which requires operators to fix their wagons over the next few years. We are working with operators to develop low-cost and effective solutions that can be rolled out quickly.



Effective rail lubrication substantially reduces noise from trains along curved track. Transport for NSW has shown through trials that modern, electronic lubricators are more effective and efficient than older mechanical lubricators. We have introduced a new standard for lubrication across the network and we are working with Sydney Trains to implement this standard.

Reducing brake noise

We have shown that enhanced brake shoes substantially reduce brake noise from coal wagons. We are working with our industry partners to implement these shoes on 400 wagons that operate through the Blue Mountains. We are currently trialling solutions for other types of wagons. If these trials are successful, Transport for NSW work with our industry partners to roll these out across the wagon fleet.

Improving planning controls

Transport for NSW is partnering with Department of Planning and Environment to improve planning controls for development around freight rail lines. We are also developing a training package for local council officers and planners to ensure new homes are properly designed to address impacts from rail noise.

Making your home quieter

Transport for NSW's Freight Noise Attenuation Program (FNAP) is part of broader range of initiatives being implemented under the Strategic Noise Action Plan. FNAP is a 10-year \$50 million program which provides noise reduction treatments each year to approximately 200 homes affected by high levels of freight rail noise. To find out more about the program, go to [Freight.transport.nsw.gov.au/FNAP](https://freight.transport.nsw.gov.au/FNAP)

