

Briefing: Secretary  
FOR INFORMATION

## Post travel report: Tara McCarthy, to Christchurch, New Zealand



Transport  
for NSW

**Purpose:** To report to the Secretary on the recent overseas travel to Christchurch, New Zealand in September 2022 to provide a keynote address at the Australasian Road Safety Conference 2022 (ARSC 22).

**Analysis:** ARSC 22 was held in Christchurch, New Zealand on 27-30 September 2022 in a hybrid format (in person and online), with the overall theme of the conference '*Changing today for tomorrow*'. The topic of 'Achieving vision zero outcomes for Indigenous Peoples' had been recommended by conference organisers for keynote presentation at a plenary session by the Deputy Secretary on behalf of Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

### Summary:

The ARSC 22 brought together leading researchers, practitioners and policymakers from Australia, New Zealand and internationally to share knowledge about best practice in road safety. The conference was held in Christchurch, New Zealand in September 2022, and was themed "Changing today for tomorrow".

TfNSW is a member of Austroads, which co-hosts the conference each year with the Australasian College of Road Safety. This year there was a third co-host, Trafinz, which is a New Zealand road advocacy body composed of government and non-government members.

The keynote provided an outline of the significant investment TfNSW makes in initiatives aimed at First Nations Australians, to improve access to the driver licensing system, promoting safe driving behaviours and reducing road trauma. For example, the presentation highlighted the Driver Licensing Access Program. This program has invested \$20 million over the next five years to continue to help First Nations Australians obtain and retain their driver's licence and remain safe and legal drivers, as well as contributing to broader social and economic benefits.

### Key learnings and outcomes

The Centre for Road Safety within Safety, Environment and Regulation Division aims to develop practical solutions to reduce deaths and serious injuries on NSW roads and recently published the 2026 Road Safety Action Plan, documenting the latest measures by NSW Government to achieve ambitious road trauma targets. An in-person presentation by the Deputy Secretary conveyed the high priority placed on road safety by the Government and the lead role of our agency internationally in new road safety research, education and initiatives, to a wide audience of road safety and injury prevention researchers, practitioners and policy makers including senior executives.

### Communication Strategy

Presentation to ARSC 22 highlighted externally and within TfNSW the value placed, and lead role played, by this agency in new tailored initiatives to improve road safety. The presentation has been shared across Safety, Environment and Regulation Division.

### Alignment with *Future Transport*

The Road Safety Action Plan 2026 commits to setting new road safety targets every 10 years to make sure we continue to move Towards Zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roads. The Plan forms part of *Future Transport Strategy*, which includes a target for zero deaths or serious injuries by 2056.

This conference provided an opportunity for the Deputy Secretary to share to an international audience, our new and innovative approaches to achieving road safety targets, particularly for First Nations Australians. This ultimately aligns with *Future Transport Strategy* by improving safety and performance for customers.

### Disclosure Summary

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Nil

### Expense Summary

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Breakdown of all costs incurred	Actual Cost
Airfares – GL 534030	\$1,028.04
Accommodation – GL 534040	\$1,397.03
Official hospitality – GL 534050	nil
Attendance fees for delegates – GL 534050	nil
Ground transport – GL 534050	nil
Meals and refreshments – GL 534050	\$110.75
Other miscellaneous costs – GL 534050	\$35.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,571.32</b>

Traveller endorsement

Secretary

<b>Tara McCarthy</b> <b>Deputy Secretary</b> <b>Safety, Environment &amp;</b> <b>Regulation Division</b>	<b>Rob Sharp</b> <b>Secretary</b>
Approved	approved <b>Noted</b>
<b>Date: 24/10/2022</b>	<b>Date: 26/10/2022</b>

## Background

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The Australasian Road Safety Conference 2022 (ARSC 22) was held in Christchurch, New Zealand on 27-30 September 2022 in a hybrid format (in person and online), with the overall theme of the conference '*Changing today for tomorrow*'. The topic of 'Achieving vision zero outcomes for Indigenous Peoples' had been recommended by conference organisers for keynote presentation at a plenary session by the Deputy Secretary on behalf of Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

Briefing:  
Minister for Metropolitan Roads  
**FOR APPROVAL** by 4 July 2022



## Overseas travel to Christchurch, New Zealand for the Australasian Road Safety Conference 2022

**Purpose:** To seek the Minister's approval for Tara McCarthy, Deputy Secretary Safety, Environment and Regulation, to present at the Australasian Road Safety Conference 2022 (ARSC 22) on the topic of 'Achieving vision zero outcomes for Indigenous Peoples'.

Ms McCarthy has completed the Traveller declaration (**Attachment A**) and provided an itinerary (**Attachment B**).

**Analysis:** ARSC 22 will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand on 27-30 September 2022 in a hybrid format (in person and online), with the overall theme of the conference 'Changing today for tomorrow'. The topic of 'Achieving vision zero outcomes for Indigenous Peoples' has been recommended by conference organisers for presentation at a plenary session by the Deputy Secretary on behalf of Transport for NSW (TfNSW).

**Reason for deadline:** Confirmation to conference organisers and booking travel.

### Recommendations

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1. **Approve** travel to Christchurch, New Zealand for Tara McCarthy, Deputy Secretary Safety, Environment and Regulation TfNSW to present at the ARSC 22 event.

### Key reasons

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#### The Australasian Road Safety Conference 2022

The [ARSC 22](#) brings together leading researchers, practitioners and policymakers from Australia, New Zealand and internationally to share knowledge about best practice in road safety. The conference will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand in September 2022, and is themed "Changing today for tomorrow".

TfNSW is a member of Austroads, which co-hosts the conference each year with the Australasian College of Road Safety. This year there is a third co-host, Trafinz, which is a New Zealand road advocacy body composed of government and non-government members.

#### Deputy Secretary has been asked to present at a plenary session

The conference organisers have invited the Deputy Secretary to present at a plenary session at the ARSC 22. The topic is proposed to be 'Achieving vision zero outcomes for Indigenous Peoples', as the organisers would like the presentation to have implications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as well as Māori people.

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Objective    BN22/00433  
Reference:

Contact: Prasannah Prabhakaran, Senior Data Analyst, Data, Advice, Research and Testing, Safety, Environment and Regulation | M:

1 of 13

While the precise content for the presentation has not been finalised, the presentation is intended to provide:

- An outline of the significant investment TfNSW makes in initiatives aimed at First Nations Australians, to improve access to the driver licensing system, promoting safe driving behaviours and reducing road trauma. For example, the presentation could highlight the Driver Licensing Access Program. This program has invested \$20 million over the next five years to continue to help First Nations Australians obtain and retain their driver's licence and remain safe and legal drivers, as well as contributing to broader social and economic benefits.
- The use of data linkage (crash, hospital and other data) to enhance our understanding of the extent and nature of road trauma experienced by First Nations people. There would be a focus here on TfNSW's process in this regard, demonstrating what linked data shows that single data sources do not. This would also present a segue between the data and programs elements.

### **Benefits Realisation**

The Centre for Road Safety within Safety, Environment and Regulation Division aims to develop practical solutions to reduce deaths and serious injuries on NSW roads and recently published the 2026 Road Safety Action Plan, documenting the latest measures by NSW Government to achieve ambitious road trauma targets. An in-person presentation by the Deputy Secretary would convey the high priority placed on road safety by the Government and the lead role of our agency internationally in new road safety research, education and initiatives, to a wide audience of road safety and injury prevention researchers, practitioners and policy makers including senior executives.

Benefits for attending the conference in person include:

- Greater engagement with the audience at the plenary session
- Opportunity to network with senior executives from other Transport agencies to identify opportunities for collaboration (in particular, the Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency)
- Preference of conference organisers
- Engage with an international consortium of road safety leaders to driver innovative, world leading solutions to achieve vision zero in NSW
- Experience demonstrations of the latest road safety technologies and applications to NSW.

### **Supporting analysis**

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#### **Communications**

Presentation to ARSC 22 highlights externally and within TfNSW the value placed, and lead role played, by this agency in new tailored initiatives to improve road safety. The presentation will be shared across Safety, Environment and Regulation Division.

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**Objective Reference:** BN22/00433

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2 of 13

### Financial impact

Event and dates	Amount
Flight Sydney to Christchurch NZ – Air New Zealand Economy Class	\$367
Flight Christchurch NZ to Sydney – Qantas Economy Class (Note: the flight costs are applicable as at 31 May 2022 and may be subject to change at time of confirming flight booking)	\$409
Accommodation for 1 guest – 5 nights (approximately \$220 per night)	\$1,100
Hire car (if applicable)	\$0
Attendance fees for delegates	\$0
Taxis, meals and other incidental costs	\$1,575
Total	\$3,451

### Budget

Actual Divisional spend against budget allocation:

	Budget details	Amount
A	FY2022-23 Travel Budget allocation for SER Division	\$1,200,000
B	YTD spend against Divisional budget (nil spend for FY2022-23)	\$0
C	Proposed total cost of travel	\$3,451
	<b>Net Position = A – B – C</b>	<b>\$1,196,549</b>

### Legal impact

Nil.

### Consultation

TfNSW Media and the Social and Economic Policy team within Customer, Strategy and Technology Division will review the Deputy Secretary’s presentation, which will highlight the investments TfNSW has made to support road safety for First Nations Australians. TfNSW Finance has completed the budget section of the brief.

### External Communications

There are no planned media opportunities specifically for TfNSW, although ARSC 22 may issue its own communications to promote the event.

### Alignment with Future Transport 2056

The Road Safety Action Plan 2026 commits to setting new road safety targets every 10 years to make sure we continue to move Towards Zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roads. The Plan forms part of *Future Transport Strategy 2056*, which includes a target for zero deaths or serious injuries by 2056.

This conference provides an opportunity for Deputy Secretary to share to an international audience, our new and innovative approaches to achieving road safety targets, particularly for First Nations Australians. This ultimately aligns with *Future Transport 2056 Strategy* by improving safety and performance for customers.

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3 of 13

**Agency Approval**

**Minister**

<p><b>Tara McCarthy</b>  <b>Deputy Secretary</b>  <b>Safety, Environment and Regulation</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Date: 03/06/2022</b></p>	<p><b>Rob Sharp</b>  <b>Secretary</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Date: 3/06/2022</b></p>	<p><b>Minister for Metropolitan Roads</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><del>Not approved</del></p> <p style="text-align: right;">8/6/2022</p> <p><b>Date:</b></p>
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**Attachments**

Attachment	Title
A	Traveller declaration
B	Itinerary
C	Invitation to the Deputy Secretary to present at ARSC 22