

## **Question on Notice**

**No. 1244**

**Asked on Wednesday 19 September 2018**

**MR C BOYCE** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

### **QUESTION:**

With reference to the need for four wheel drive vehicles to be tested for compliance with the Queensland Code of Practice for Vehicle Modifications (Version 3, February 2018)—

Will the Minister advise why (a) there is no facility in Queensland for testing vehicles equipped with Electronic Stability Control and (b) the nearest facility for Australian Design Regulations testing is in Melbourne at a cost of \$16,000 per vehicle?

### **ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for Callide for the question.

The Palaszczuk Government has been working closely with four-wheel drive enthusiasts, the automotive industry and other jurisdictions to introduce changes to the Queensland Code of Practice (QCOP) which sets the rules for vehicle lifts in Queensland.

These changes to QCOP will amend the code to raise the maximum certifiable lift in Queensland to 150 millimetres (mm). This change is in line with the National Code of Practice (NCOP). The government also announced that, for vehicles with electronic stability control (ESC), vehicle owners will be able to raise their vehicle up to 75mm without certification or ESC testing. This change is consistent with rules that apply in both New South Wales and Victoria.

A final version of the QCOP and explanatory documents incorporating these changes were released on 19 October 2018 and can be found on the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) website.

ESC is a critical safety feature that has been mandated within the Australian Design Rules. It is a requirement in all states and territories that, if a vehicle lift is performed, the ESC of the modified vehicle must continue to function as per manufacturers' specifications.

Vehicle testing is available through commercial test centres interstate and a number of companies have expressed interest in developing test facilities in Queensland.

TMR is currently liaising with other jurisdictions and industry to explore possible alternative testing options to ensure modified vehicles remain safe, and that ESC functionality is maintained.

TMR is not a testing agency and is not considering opening its own test facility. However, all options raised in consultation in relation to ESC testing were considered before finalising changes to QCOP.