

**Submission
No 10**

**EXAMINATION OF AUDITOR-GENERAL'S PERFORMANCE AUDIT
REPORTS AUGUST 2018 - JANUARY 2019**

Organisation: Transport for NSW

Date Received: 13 March 2020



Mr Greg Piper MP
Chair
Legislative Assembly Public Accounts Committee
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Dear Chair

I write in response to your letter of 28 January 2020, on behalf of the Legislative Assembly, Public Accounts Committee, seeking advice on actions taken by Transport for NSW in response to the Auditor-General's report Transport Access Program, tabled on 19 February 2019.

I thank the Committee for the opportunity for Transport for NSW (TfNSW) to provide a submission outlining its response to the Audit Report, including actions taken to date.

The Transport Access Program is a key initiative under the Transport for NSW Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2018-2022 which is our commitment to reducing and eliminating barriers. The Transport Access Program Tranche 3 represents a significant opportunity to contribute to the Disability Discrimination Act related targets through Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport compliance upgrades.

Since the program began in 2011, more than 470 projects have been completed or are underway. This includes accessibility upgrades such as lifts and ramps, improved interchanges, and commuter car parks.

I am pleased to advise the Committee that TfNSW has completed the actions arising from three of the five recommendations in the Auditor-General's report. This includes publishing a schedule of stations and wharves it plans to upgrade as part of TAP3, with an estimated time of construction for each location; ensuring decisions on how and why projects are prioritised for funding are recorded and maintained, and, developing a plan, the scope of which was approved through the Transport Access Program Governance in June 2019, and includes compliance audits across the four transport networks associated with the Program.

The remaining two recommendations relate to completing an audit of Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 compliance across all public transport networks. Procurement documentation is now being finalised, with the audit expected to be completed by October 2020.

The status report of the implementation of recommendations is provided below.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Staples'.

Rodd Staples
Secretary

ATTACHMENT A – STATUS REPORT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Transport for NSW Transport Access Program (TAP)

	RECOMMENDATION	ACCEPTED OR REJECTED	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	DUE DATE	STATUS (completed, on track, delayed) and COMMENT	RESPONSIBILITY (Section of agency responsible for implementation)
1	Within one month of finalising the TAP3 project list, Transport for NSW should: publish a schedule of stations and wharves that it plans to upgrade as part of TAP3 with an estimated time of construction for each location	Accepted	N/A	Mar-19	Completed. Completion dates have been added to the website to show indicative annual project completion dates for all announced projects and more detailed dates for projects where a contract has been awarded. Funding allocation has been provided for four of the 12 wharves under TAP3. Further funding will be considered as part of the 2020/21 Budget process.	Rail Delivery - Infrastructure & Place
2	By March 2019, Transport for NSW should: ensure decisions on how and why projects are prioritised for funding are recorded and maintained, in compliance with the State Records Act 1998	Accepted	N/A	Mar-19	Completed. TfNSW has published the prioritisation process, the complete list of TAP3 projects, status, artists' impressions on the TAP3 website in March 2019. Any changes or new scope in TAP, such as the four additional locations announced by the Government on 1 March 2019, have been recorded through the approved TAP Governance.	Rail Delivery - Infrastructure & Place
3	By June 2019, Transport for NSW should: develop a plan for a comprehensive audit of Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 compliance across all public transport networks	Accepted	N/A	Jun-19	Completed. The scope has been approved through the TAP Governance in June 2019 and includes compliance audits across the four transport networks associated with TAP (i.e. Sydney Trains, Intercity Trains, Regional Trains and all government owned wharves that have	Transport Policy – Customer Strategy & Technology

	RECOMMENDATION	ACCEPTED OR REJECTED	ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN	DUE DATE	STATUS (completed, on track, delayed) and COMMENT	RESPONSIBILITY (Section of agency responsible for implementation)
					contracted services including Sydney Harbour Ferries)	
4	By June 2020, Transport for NSW should: complete a comprehensive audit of Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 compliance across all public transport networks and publicly report this information	Accepted	Tenders will be called by Q1 2020.	Jun-20	Ongoing. Procurement documentation is being finalised. It is anticipated the audit will be completed by Q4 2020.	Rail Delivery - Infrastructure and Place
5	By June 2020, Transport for NSW should: improve how it measures, and publicly reports on, accessibility outcomes for people with disability.	Accepted	In August 2019, the Transport Infrastructure Council approved a new reform process for the modernisation of the DSAPT which will be led by Queensland and the Australian Government. NSW will be participating in the reform process through the taskforce. Following the DSAPT Compliance Audit, TfNSW will determine appropriate measures for measuring accessibility and how it is publicly reported.	Jun-20	Ongoing. As per recommendation 4 above.	Rail Delivery - Infrastructure and Place