



South Australia's

Level Crossing Safety Action Plan

2025–2028



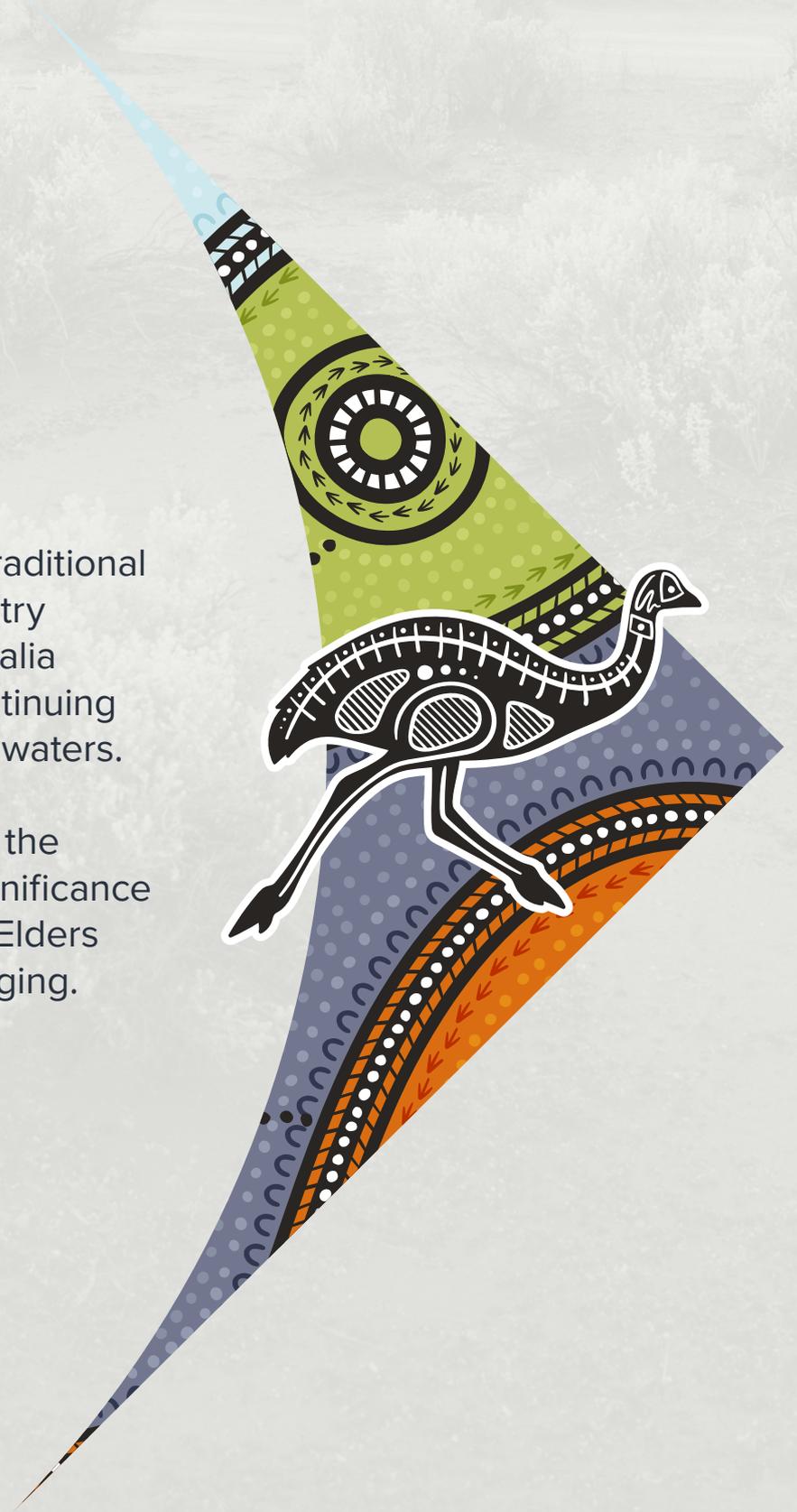
Government
of South Australia

Department for Infrastructure
and Transport

Build.
Move.
Connect.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Country throughout South Australia and recognise their continuing connection to land and waters.

We pay our respects to the diversity of cultures, significance of contributions and to Elders past, present and emerging.



Contents

Glossary	4
Minister’s foreword	5
South Australia’s Level Crossing Safety Action Plan 2025–2028	6
Level Crossing Safety Actions 2025–2028	7
Education and enforcement	8
Assets, technology and innovation	11
Data and analysis	14
Coordination and collaboration	16



Glossary

Acronym	Description
ALCAM	Australian Level Crossing Assessment Model
ATSB	Australian Transport Safety Bureau
DfE	Department for Education
DIT	Department for Infrastructure and Transport
LXM	Level Crossing Management System
NHVR	National Heavy Vehicle Regulator
NTRO	National Transport Research Organisation
ONRSR	Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator
RAA	Royal Automobile Association of South Australia
RIM	Rail Infrastructure Managers
RSO	Rolling Stock Operators
SAPOL	South Australia Police

Minister's foreword



South Australians enjoy outstanding state and national rail systems that efficiently and effectively move people and goods across our communities and our State.

It's important that in embracing these systems we take the necessary steps to move steadily towards the national vision of zero harm at South Australia's level crossings by 2050.

South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Action Plan 2025–2028 is an important document that outlines a suite of 64 clear actions to help protect all users of railway level crossings. It sits alongside *South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Strategy 2025–2034* as an integral delivery mechanism.

Key actions in this document fall into four key categories, each with specific measures to be implemented through the life of the plan.

These are:

- education and enforcement
- assets
- technology and innovation
- data and analysis; and
- coordination and collaboration.

Each of these areas has a strong interconnection with the others, resulting in a robust plan with the potential for far-reaching, positive results.

Importantly, *South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Action Plan 2025–2028* will be updated every three years, based on considered analysis of latest data and emerging opportunities.

I thank everyone who worked on this strategy for their diligence and hard work, and look forward to seeing the positive change these actions will deliver.

Hon Tom Koutsantonis MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Action Plan 2025–2028

South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Action Plan 2025–2028 (the Action Plan) identifies actions that will help contribute towards the national vision of zero harm at South Australia's level crossings by 2050.

To achieve the national vision of zero harm at level crossings the goal is to reduce:

- incidents and near-misses at level crossings each year; and
- the impact of incidents at level crossings

The Action Plan is an extension of *South Australia's Level Crossing Safety Strategy 2025–2034* (the Strategy) and has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders, including members of the South Australian Level Crossing Advisory Committee (SALCAC).

The Strategy is guided by a Safe System approach that will ensure that level crossing outcomes are looked at holistically and allow for greater consistency and coordination between road and rail infrastructure managers (RIM).

The Safe System approach adopts a holistic view of the road and rail transport system and the interactions at level crossings between people, vehicles, rolling stock and infrastructure. It recognises that human error and vulnerability exists, and that people will always make mistakes, but this should not result in loss of life or serious injury.

There are four overarching pillars under the Safe System approach that influence level crossing safety outcomes:

- 1 Safe infrastructure
- 2 Safe vehicles
- 3 Safe speeds
- 4 Safe users

The Safe System model is regarded as international best practice and is the framework for improving road safety, including level crossings across Australia.

The Action Plan sets out the priorities and initiatives to be delivered, as well as responsibilities and timeframes for implementation. It focuses on implementing a small number of higher impact initiatives with clear and identifiable benefits, informed by research and evidence.

The Action Plan is a rolling three-year plan, which will be reviewed annually. This will allow the State Government to:

- regularly review and report on actions
- adapt and respond to changes to priorities and trends, including safety and risk trends
- effectively manage changes or impacts to road and rail networks

Completed actions will be reported annually.



Level Crossing Safety Actions 2025–2028

Actions will be delivered under four key areas. These areas are guided by evidence, analysis of incident data and consultation with key stakeholders.

The focus areas have informed the strategic priorities and focus areas of the Strategy and align with the *National Level Crossing Safety Strategy 2023–2032*.

Key areas

1 Education and enforcement

2 Assets, technology and innovation

3 Data and analysis

4 Coordination and collaboration



Supporting and enforcing positive change in level crossing user behaviour to reduce risks at level crossings through actions including safety campaigns, school education, increasing driver and pedestrian awareness, and addressing incidents on the rail network.

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead	
1.1	Improve how we inform and educate the community about level crossing safety through state and national level crossing safety campaigns.	Review and update content on the THINK! Road Safety website to include links to the following websites: TRACKsafe , The Drivers Handbook , The Hazard Perception Test and My Licence - myLs .	THINK! Road Safety website updated.	2025	Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)
		Develop an annual level crossing safety communications strategy.	Annual level crossing safety communications strategy developed.	Annually	DIT
		Implement state-based level crossing safety campaigns and key messages in line with the communications strategy.	State-based level crossing safety campaigns and key messages implemented.	Annually	DIT
		Amplify national level crossing safety campaigns and key messages through Department channels.	National level crossing safety campaigns and key messages amplified through Department channels.	Ongoing	DIT
		Identify risks for high-incident groups, and target messages to those groups.	Relevant messages targeted to high-incident groups.	Ongoing	DIT
		Use consistent safety messaging (refer 1.3) when developing fact sheets for level crossing safety and level crossing safety awareness for education and distribution at community events.	Level crossing safety and level crossing safety awareness fact sheets distributed at community events.	Ongoing	Royal Automobile Association of South Australia (RAA)

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
1.2 Coordinate education and enforcement campaigns to improve and maintain public understanding of level crossing risks.	Collaborate with South Australia Police (SAPOL) to identify opportunities to promote level crossing safety messages.	Level crossing safety messages shared in collaboration with SAPOL.	Ongoing	DIT, SAPOL
	Support and contribute to the national review of level crossing-related penalties.	National review of level crossing-related penalties supported and contributed to.	2027	DIT
	Use DIT media channels, including social media, to educate road users and promote safe behaviours around level crossings.	Department media channels used to promote safe behaviours around level crossings.	Ongoing	DIT
1.3 Investigate incorporating level crossing safety messages into school education packages.	Work with the Department for Education (DfE) to identify opportunities to promote level crossing safety to schools.	Opportunities identified to promote level crossing safety to schools.	Ongoing	DIT, DfE
	DIT to collaborate with RAA and other groups to ensure consistent safety messaging around level crossings as part of road safety education to schools through Street Smart Primary and/or other programs.	Level crossing safety messaging included in school road safety education programs. Level of awareness after safety messaging compared with level of awareness before program.	Ongoing	DIT, RAA and participating schools
1.4 Use incidents on the rail and tram networks and the impact on train/tram crews, responders and the community as an education opportunity.	Identify opportunities to promote level crossing safety messages to the community with input from train and tram crews (i.e. driver experience video).	Media and communications include messages from personnel affected by collisions or near misses with pedestrians or road vehicles.	Ongoing	DIT
1.5 Explore measures to improve level crossing information for driver education and motorist licence testing.	Include level crossing safety messages in Driver Handbook and Driving Companion books.	Safety messages included in Driver Handbook and Driving Companion books.	2025	DIT
	Investigate opportunities for level crossing competencies to be included in licence training.	Opportunities for level crossing competencies to be included in licence training investigated.	2025	DIT

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
1.6 Explore measures to increase heavy vehicle driver awareness and information of risks at level crossings.	Amplify National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) campaign and key messages through Department channels.	NHVR campaign and key messages amplified through Department channels.	Ongoing	DIT, NHVR
	Ensure level crossing safety messaging is incorporated in co-ordinated education and enforcement campaigns for heavy vehicle drivers as part of <i>South Australia's Road Safety Strategy to 2031</i> .	Increase in awareness for heavy vehicle operators. Reduction in heavy vehicle representation in incident statistics.	Ongoing	DIT, NHVR, SAPOL
	Provide feedback to NHVR regarding national or state initiatives to improve heavy vehicle operator licensing and education related to level crossings.	Feedback is provided at SALCAC meetings.	Ongoing	SALCAC
1.7 Contribute to and support the development and implementation of the South Australian Suicide Prevention Action Plan to address self-harm incidents at level crossings.	Identify and implement actions from the South Australian Suicide Prevention Action Plan that are relevant to level crossings.	Actions from the South Australian Suicide Prevention Action Plan, relevant to level crossings, identified and actioned.	2027	DIT
1.8 Continue to support and participate in Rail Safety Week.	Amplify Rail Safety Week campaign and key messages through Department channels.	Rail Safety Week campaign and key messages amplified through Department channels.	Ongoing	DIT
1.9 Research potential improvements to level crossing enforcement programs.	Implement nationally consistent penalties for level crossing infringements.	Implementation of penalties for level crossing infringements, consistent with harmonised national penalties.	2027	DIT



Taking actions to improve and identify safety controls, emerging technology and innovations that present opportunities to cost-effectively improve level crossing safety.

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead	
2.1	Develop systems and processes to identify risk taking activity by road users to inform mitigations.	Investigate use of Artificial Intelligence cameras, CCTV or road user detection cameras to inform behaviours at level crossings.	Desktop review of current systems in-use and what products are available.	2025	DIT
			Level crossing locations identified and/or approved for trial or application.	2027	DIT, RIM, SAPOL, Local Government (Councils)
2.2	Continued focus on level crossing safety improvement programs.	Interface Managers to identify and assess risk at level crossings and propose treatments to inform a level crossing safety improvement program.	Risks at level crossings identified and assessed and treatments proposed. Level crossing safety improvement program incorporates treatments to manage identified level crossing risks.	2025	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
		As part of regional road assessment program, assess level crossings and safety around level crossings on the network.	Safety of level crossings assessed as part of the RAA regional road assessment program.	Ongoing	RAA
		RAA provides recommendations on safety improvements or key findings at level crossings and pedestrian crossings.	SALCAC reviews recommendations provided by RAA on safety improvements or key findings at level crossings and pedestrian crossings.	Ongoing	SALCAC, RAA
		Update Operational Instruction or policy document for effective management of non-operational, dormant, disused or closed rail corridors.	Operational Instruction or policy document developed for effective management of non-operational, dormant, disused or closed rail corridors.	2026	DIT
2.3	Interface Managers to review and document risk profile of level crossings utilised by heavy vehicles.	Review heavy vehicle routes with RIM (encourage road managers to ensure approvals for heavy vehicle routes will not increase level crossing risk).	Completed review of heavy vehicle routes, with RIM. Approvals for heavy vehicle routes on state highways to not increase level crossing risk.	2025	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
2.4 Investigate the use of new and innovative technology to reduce risk, particularly in relation to heavy vehicles.	Liaise with organisations that are undertaking projects as part of the Australian Government Research and Innovation Grant.	Investigations into the use of new and innovative technology to reduce risk, in relation to heavy vehicles at level crossings. Includes liaison with organisations undertaking projects as part of the Australian Government Research and Innovation Grant, and work with NTRO with innovative research and trials.	2027	DIT, RIM
	Work with National Transport Research Organisation (NTRO) with innovative research and trials.			
2.5 Develop investment program focusing on high-risk crossings.	Identify high-priority level crossings. Identify what makes the crossings high-priority. Identify the control or treatment. Develop project scope and designs and costings.	High-priority level crossings identified, projects scoped, designed and costed.	2025	DIT
	Develop level crossing improvement plans.	Each lead develops a level crossing improvement plan, relevant to each organisation.	2025	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
	RAA, as part of its ongoing advocacy for network investment, works with rail and road authorities to identify potential priority locations to improve safety at level crossings.	RAA assessment report findings used to provide input to level crossing improvement plans.	Ongoing	RAA
	Improve asset capture of private level crossings.	Asset capture of private level crossings is improved, most or all private level crossings captured in Level Crossing Management System (LXM).	2027	DIT, RIM

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
2.6 Work with RIM on identifying private/occupational level crossings for inclusion on the LXM.	Work with RIM on a state standard for private level crossings.	South Australian standard for private level crossings developed.	2026	DIT, RIM
	Identify all private/occupational level crossings and ensure they are included in LXM.	All private/occupational level crossings identified and included on LXM.	2027	DIT
2.7 Investigate potential for Cooperative Intelligent Transport System technology applications to improve level crossing safety.	Investigate potential for Cooperative Intelligent Transport System technology applications to improve level crossing safety.	Potential for Cooperative Intelligent Transport System technology applications to improve level crossing safety investigated.	2026	DIT
	Liaise with road freight industry regarding level crossing user behaviour.	Liaised with road freight industry regarding level crossing user behaviour.	Ongoing	DIT



KEY AREA 3 Data and analysis

Focusing on data collection to enable more targeted evidence-based interventions and measure the effectiveness of those treatments.

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
3.1 Research and analysis of level crossing user behaviour to better understand current level crossing user safety issues, behaviour and human factors.	Contribute or participate in activities like level crossing research projects and development of level crossing guidelines.	Participated in or contributed to activities like level crossing research projects and development of level crossing guidelines.	Ongoing	DIT
	Support research and analysis to better understand human factors and level crossing user behaviour.	Supported research and analysis to better understand human factors and level crossing user behaviour.	Ongoing	DIT
	Work with SAPOL to identify level crossings of concern or with poor user behaviour.	Identified level crossings of concern or with poor user behaviour, by working with SAPOL.	2026	DIT, SAPOL
3.2 Work with key agencies and organisations to identify level crossings with known poor user behaviour.	Review and consider recommendations from the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) regarding investigations into level crossing incidents, in relation to poor user behaviour.	Level crossings with known poor user behaviour identified by review and consideration of ATSB investigations.	Annually	DIT
	Investigate use of Application Programming Interfaces as means to extract and share public, partner and internal data.	Investigated use of Application Programming Interfaces as means to extract and share public, partner and internal data.	2026	DIT
3.3 Investigate opportunities to improve the quality, consistency and availability of level crossing data including incident data.	Work with Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) to ensure consistency and availability of level crossing incident data and investigate how to capture boom strikes as part of the dataset.	Improved consistency and availability of level crossing incident data. Boom strikes captured in level crossing incident data.	2026	DIT, ONRSR

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead	
3.4	Work with road freight industry to investigate opportunities to use technology-based solutions to improve heavy vehicle safety at level crossings.	Engage with road and rail managers to uptake the Australian Level Crossing Assessment Model (ALCAM) risk assessment tool and the LXM System.	Increased use of ALCAM risk assessment tool and LXM by road and rail managers.	Ongoing	DIT
3.5	Support continued use and continuous improvement to the ALCAM risk assessment tool.	Continue the Department's commitment to providing representation on the National ALCAM Committee and be a party to the National ALCAM Committee's Collaboration Agreement.	Department's continued commitment to representation on the National ALCAM Committee. Department continues to be a party to the National ALCAM Committee's Collaboration Agreement.	Ongoing	DIT
		Promote the collection of level crossing ALCAM data to maintain information within a 5-year period.	Evidence of an increase in stakeholders maintaining ALCAM data.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
3.5	Support continued use and continuous improvement to the ALCAM risk assessment tool.	Support and promote the National ALCAM Training Strategy and training courses.	National ALCAM Training Strategy and training courses supported and promoted.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
3.6	Promote stakeholder organisation uptake and use of ALCAM for risk identification and assessment at level crossings.	Undertake stakeholder engagement to promote use of ALCAM and the LXM system.	Increased use of ALCAM and LXM by road and rail managers.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)



Coordination and collaboration

Delivery of strategies to increase and support opportunities for collaboration to improve knowledge sharing, risk identification and management, alignment, integration and coordination between stakeholders.

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead	
4.1	Develop funding opportunities for data collection, research and level crossing safety improvements.	Investigate funding opportunities for data collection, research and level crossing safety improvements.	Funding opportunities developed for data collection, research and level crossing safety improvements.	Ongoing	DIT
4.2	Support the development of interface agreements consistent with the Rail Safety National Law.	Investigate developing an Interface Agreement register.	Development of interface Agreement register investigated.	2026	DIT
		Continue to support and promote Interface Agreements, regular reviews and risk assessment processes.	Interface Agreements executed, regular reviews and risk assessments supported and promoted.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, ONRSR (RIM side), Local Government (Councils)
		Work with the NHVR on level crossing information capture for the NHVR Portal.	Level crossing information captured and included on NHVR Portal.	2025 and 2026	DIT, RIM, NHVR
		Rolling Stock Operators (RSO) to demonstrate compliance with the duty to manage, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety of rail and road users at level crossings.	Number of RSOs adopting ONRSR Code of Practice for Train Visibility at Level Crossings, or an alternative solution.	2028	RSO, RIM, ONRSR
4.3	Improve coordination between road managers, RIM and the NHVR.	Interface managers to undertake a joint risk assessment when reviewing a request for heavy vehicle access through the NHVR.	Interface managers undertake joint risk assessments when reviewing requests for heavy vehicle access through the NHVR.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
4.4	Work with RIM on a state standard for private level crossings.	Develop an Operational Instruction for private level crossings (level crossings on private land, private roads, driveways).	Operational Instruction developed for private level crossings.	2025	DIT, RIM
4.5	Identify and implement measures to address risks on heavy vehicle routes.	Establish agreed protocols for road managers to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, road manager consents for heavy vehicle routes will not increase level crossing risk.	Protocols established for road managers to take reasonably practicable steps to ensure consents for heavy vehicle routes do not increase level crossing risks.	2025	DIT

Key initiatives	Key actions	Measures	Timing	Lead
4.5 Identify and implement measures to address risks on heavy vehicle routes.	Engage with Road Managers to consider reducing the road speed limit on approach to level crossings.	Engagement commenced with road managers in South Australia.	2027	DIT, Local Government (Councils)
	Identify and approve data that can be accessed via the Data.SA open data portal.	Data identified, approved and uploaded to the Data.SA open data portal.	2026	DIT
4.6 Support opportunities for collaboration.	Road and RIM to continue their support on the SALCAC.	Road and RIM to continue their support on the SALCAC.	Ongoing	DIT, RIM, Local Government (Councils)
	Continue support on the National Level Crossing Safety Committee.	Continued representation on the National Level Crossing Safety Committee, and updates provided to SALCAC.	Ongoing	DIT
4.7 Work with Australian and state governments to maintain continued investment in level crossing safety programs.	Develop a Level Crossing Improvement Planning Program for state roads.	Level Crossing Improvement Planning Program for state roads developed.	2026	DIT
	Stakeholders to develop their own Level Crossing Improvement Planning Programs.	Stakeholder level crossing improvement planning programs developed.	2026	RIM, Local Government (Councils)





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More information

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