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# Road safety big concern

By TALIA PATTISON

ROAD safety is one thing the Transport Workers Union NSW (TWU) is most concerned about.

Transport Workers Union southern NSW secretary Klaus Pinkas and truck driver Frank Black were in Leeton on Monday to meet with Leeton Shire Council road safety and traffic officer Sandra Robinson.

As part of the meeting Mr Pinkas and Mr Black handed a report on safety and rates of pay in the transport industry to Mrs Robinson.

The TWU recently held a safe rates summit in Sydney

and is now travelling across the country visiting major regional and metropolitan areas to meet with clients, transport operators and politicians to discuss the issues the industry is facing.

Mr Pinkas said because of a large number of truck drivers living and working in Leeton it was appropriate for council to be informed of the safety campaign.

"The TWU has been working for some time with governments at all levels in order to ensure there is a federal determination with min-

imum rates of pay for truck drivers," he said.

"With 281 people being killed in our industry each year, it is important drivers have full-cost recovery, including pay for waiting times and fuel costs, so they are not forced into doing 'one more load' to make ends meet.

"There is plenty of public support out there for proper and lasting change in our industry. The people we will be meeting with over the coming weeks seem to be on the same page as us on these issues."

Both Mr Pinkas and Mr Black will now travel to Canberra along with other representatives to lobby and meet with government representatives.

Mrs Robinson said she supported the TWU's campaign.

"Safety on the road is an important issue and if this campaign can improve safety for truck drivers and other road users than that is great," she said.

"Hopefully we will see less accidents occurring."



**ROAD SAFETY:** The Transport Workers Union NSW visited Leeton on Monday. Handing a report to Leeton Shire Council road safety and traffic officer Sandra Robinson during the visit was (left) truck driver Frank Black and Transport Workers Union of NSW sub-branch secretary Klaus Pinkas.