



17 July 2021

NSW Premier The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, BA, DIntS, MCom MP

By email: willoughby@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Premier,

As you know, the Transport Workers Union (TWU) and Australian Road Transport Industrial Organisation (ARTIO) collectively represent workers and employers across the transport sector. We write regarding our concerns of disruption to essential transport operations due to snap policy changes, such as the tighter restrictions announced earlier today which prevent workers from leaving the Fairfield, Liverpool and Canterbury-Bankstown Local Government Areas (LGAs). We urgently require the following:

- **Clarification that the exemption applies to all essential transport workers, including bus drivers, aviation workers, waste workers, taxi and rideshare drivers.**
- **A standing exemption which relieves transport workers from future snap policy changes which would prevent them from doing their jobs.**

We commend the NSW Government for promptly responding to calls for an exemption for transport workers, allowing them to leave the Fairfield, Liverpool and Canterbury-Bankstown LGAs. The aforementioned clarification of coverage of transport workers is vital, as is clear information and enforcement of such an exemption.

Transport workers perform critical work for New South Wales communities. They ensure essential supplies reach supermarkets and medical centres, our streets are clean and sanitary, and citizens are able to attend testing and vaccination centres. The transport industry is the backbone of Australia and, particularly over the last 18 months, has been crucial in supplying our communities and supporting the economy.

Please confirm immediately that relevant directions will be made by the NSW Government to ensure all transport workers are exempt from these and future restrictions which would prevent their ability to perform essential duties, and that clear advice will be urgently provided to transport workers, employers and those enforcing the new rules.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Olsen

TWU NSW Branch Secretary

Laurie D'Apice

ARTIO NSW Secretary