

## FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL PROVIDING HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY VEHICLE ACCESS

*“Having the Intelligent Access Program (IAP) as a compliance assurance tool has been a catalyst to opening up the opportunity to develop a Higher Mass Limits (HML) network within Forbes Shire”*



### AT A GLANCE

- Forbes Shire Council is centrally located with access to major capital cities along the eastern seaboard
- Council has identified road upgrade priorities for HML vehicles
- Council recognises productivity, efficiency and environmental benefits flow from opening up regional and local roads to HML vehicles
- Council welcomes applications from the trucking industry to access local roads.



### ABOUT FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

Located in central western New South Wales, Forbes Shire Council occupies an area of 4,715 square kilometres with an estimated population of 9,600, approximately 7,000 of whom live in Forbes.

Forbes is approximately 385km west-north-west of Sydney with direct access to Melbourne and Brisbane via the Newell Highway, and Adelaide through the Mid-Western Highway via West Wyalong or the Sturt Highway via Narrandera.

Agricultural industries including beef, sheep, pigs, grains and fruit growing underpin the economy of Forbes Shire Council. Forbes has a saleyard, extensive grain storage facilities and a honey factory.

### HIGHER MASS LIMITS (HML) ACCESS TO AND FROM FORBES

Access for 26 metre B-doubles is available between Melbourne and Brisbane on the Newell Highway; and on either the Mid-Western or Sturt Highways to Adelaide.

HML access for B-doubles from Forbes is also possible to Condobolin via Parkes, Grenfell via Marsden and Griffith via either the Mid-Western Highway or the Temora-Yenda Road.

### PRIORITIES IN DEVELOPING THE REGIONAL AND LOCAL ROAD NETWORKS WITHIN FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

Forbes Shire Council has 1,870km of local roads, 1,070km of which are unsealed and 46 bridges, (including culverts over 6m in length), four of which are either timber or Bailey bridges.

David Tinlin, Manager, Technical Services at Forbes Shire Council says that Council has identified priorities for upgrading the regional and local road network to permit access for HML vehicles.

“In recognition of the potential productivity benefits to transport operators, Council’s priority is to improve HML access on the Regional road network, to ensure HML access is possible on local roads in industrial areas and roads which connect receival facilities for grain and livestock,” said Mr Tinlin.

“Type 1 A-double road train access at HML, Modular B-triple access at General Mass Limits (GML) and 26 metre B-Double access at HML is possible from Condobolin to Forbes, as far as the Parkes Shire Council boundary however, vertical and horizontal alignment issues inhibit access on local roads within the Forbes urban area.”

“Council is currently upgrading the Forbes-Bogan Gate Rd and has plans to redirect this route to join the Newell Highway near

# IAP What's In It For Me?

Back Yamma Rd at Daroobalgie, north of the present Highway intersection,” said Mr Tinlin.

Although HML access is not currently possible to a number of grain silos in the Forbes district, including Forbes, Garema, Wirrinyrna and Yarrabandai, Council acknowledges these access issues must be addressed.



## ACCESS FOR HML VEHICLES AND OTHER HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY VEHICLES WITHIN FORBES SHIRE COUNCIL

Type 1 A-double road trains and Modular B-triple access at GML is permitted on the Newell Highway between the intersection of Lachlan Valley Way and the Newell Highway, south west of Forbes and the intersection of Back Yamma Rd at Daroobalgie, between Forbes and Parkes.

“Type 1 A-double road trains and Modular B-triples operating at GML can access the Central West Livestock Exchange on Back Yamma Rd as well as Mountain Industries’ premises which include grain and fertiliser silos, grain drying, aspirated and gravity grading facilities and intermodal facilities off Abattoir Road.”

“However, access restrictions apply at certain times for Modular B-triples operating at GML on Back Yamma Road on school days.”

“Forbes Shire Council has also approved access for 26 metre B-doubles on all of these roads as well as to the Red Bend grain silo on Wongajong Rd off Lachlan Valley Way,” Mr Tinlin said.

## PRODUCTIVITY, EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Forbes Shire Council recognises productivity, efficiency and environmental benefits flow from opening up regional and local roads to HML vehicles.

“The opportunity to expand the HML road network within the Council’s boundaries underpins network improvements, enabling local farmers and other businesses to take advantage of HML access along the Newell Highway corridor as well as to markets in Sydney and elsewhere.”

“Council’s policy is to approve HML access on regional and local roads where the road conditions make access possible and on application from a transport operator.”

“Council welcomes applications from the trucking industry to access local roads which in the opinion of Council are of a standard to support HML vehicles.”

“Having the Intelligent Access Program (IAP) as a compliance assurance tool has been a catalyst to opening up the opportunity to develop a HML network within Forbes Shire Council,” Mr Tinlin said.



The information contained in this case study is intended to convey the experiences of the transport operator/s concerned. The benefits of IAP mentioned in this case study may not be true for all transport operators. Transport operators should consider the appropriateness of IAP to their business operations, objectives and circumstances before enrolling in IAP.

Information in this case study has been provided by Forbes Shire Council.