

MTAA MEETS WITH THE OPPOSITION

18 December 2018: The MTAA has held a series of meetings with the leadership of the Labor Party including Shadow Cabinet Ministers, Ministers Assisting and Parliamentarians during the ALP National Conference in Adelaide this week.

MTAA discussions centred on key MTAA member and business issues including: automotive skills shortages; increased and targeted funding for automotive training and skills development; retention and ongoing funding of mentoring program; small business matters; progress on an Automotive Code of Conduct to address Access to service and repair information; challenges facing new car franchised dealers and the franchising code and a Code to address these issues; smash repair industry issues and ongoing calls for a mandated and prescribed code of conduct for the smash repair industry; automotive opportunities and growth; and environmental matters including an End-Of-Vehicle Life policy and network of accredited recycling centres.

The Labor National Conference provided the MTAA an opportunity to meet with the Opposition Leadership team, Parliamentarians, Staff and influencers to ensure awareness of critical issues impacting the automotive industry and proposals to address them. The meetings and discussions with Labor followed the same program with Government Ministers and Liberal Parliamentarians last month and a meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the National Party and Member VACC, earlier this month. MTAA is confident that that the major political parties are more aware of key and critical issues impacting MTAA Member business constituents as we approach the Federal Election in 2019.

MTAA MEETS WITH SHADOW EMPLOYMENT PORTFOLIO SHADOW MINISTERS

MTAA had talks with Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Education and Training, and Shadow Minister for Women, Hon Tanya Plibersek MP; Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Apprenticeships Senator the Hon Doug Cameron; and Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Hon Brendan O'Connor MP about:

- The historically high skills shortages across automotive industries.
- Comprehensive improvements needed to Vocational Education, including addressing perceptions of trade careers, and proper recognition of the valuable role of industry providers.
- The need for appropriate skilled migration as a tool to assist short to medium term shortages.
- Securing mentoring as an ongoing government funded program, and extension of program to all MTAA members as part of a wider skills shortage package to automotive led by MTAA and Members.
- Increased support for automotive apprentices and traineeships.
- The planned TAFE Review and the role of industry training organisations and the need for a balanced approach to ongoing funding; and
- An opportunity to tackle skills shortages, apprenticeship and trainees, skilled migration and a range of other matters through a dedicated Government MTAA and Member partnership and funded program.



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Shadow Minister for Education and Training, and Shadow Minister for Women, Hon Tanya Plibersek MP



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Skills, TAFE and Apprenticeships Senator the Hon Doug Cameron



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Hon Brendan O'Connor MP

MTAA MEETS WITH SHADOW ASSISTANT TREASURER

MTAA had discussions with Shadow Assistant Treasurer, Shadow Minister for Competition and Productivity, Shadow Minister for Charities and Not-for-profits, and Shadow Minister for Trade in Services, Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP. MTAA thanked Dr Leigh and the Opposition for their commitment to the introduction of an Automotive Code. MTAA said its position remained for separate codes for access to automotive service repair and technical information, Dealer Agreements under Franchising and the Smash Repair Industry; but it would work with the Opposition and Government to achieve the best possible outcome for the automotive business members and consumers. MTAA provided additional information about its draft code of conduct for access to repair information and relationship issues between car manufacturers and dealers and car insurers and the smash repair industry. Dr Leigh was very much across the issues impacting the automotive industry and reiterated the Oppositions commitment to the introduction of an Automotive Code.



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Assistant Treasurer Shadow Minister for Competition and Productivity Shadow Minister for Charities and Not-for-profits Shadow Minister for Trade in Services, Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP

MTAA MEETS WITH SHADOW ENVIRONMENT PORTFOLIO MINISTERS

MTAA in discussions with Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Hon Mark Butler MP; and Shadow Minister for Environment and Water, Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Australia, Shadow Minister for the Arts, and Manager of Opposition Business in the House of Representatives, Hon Tony Burke MP; on MTAA and Member work developing an ELV Policy and accredited reception facility network nationwide. MTAA explained work undertaken to determine an average national decommissioning cost for end of life vehicles; the 'Greenstamp' environmental program; current policies and processes in other OECD countries and key learnings; and potential funding models.

Both Shadow Ministers were interested in the work undertaken by MTAA and Members, and indicated future interest in seeing the Policy Framework currently being prepared by MTAA when completed.



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Climate Change and Energy, Hon Mark Butler MP



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Environment and Water, Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Australia, and Shadow Minister for the Arts, & Manager of Opposition Business in the House of Representatives, Hon Tony Burke MP

MTAA MEETS WITH SHADOW MINISTERS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND INDUSTRY

MTAA had discussions with Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development, and Tourism, Hon Anthony Albanese MP; and Shadow Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator the Hon Kim Carr on key issues impacting the Automotive Industry and specifically MTAA Member Business constituents as discussed in earlier posts.



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development and Shadow Minister for Tourism, Hon Anthony Albanese MP



MTAA CEO Richard Dudley with Shadow Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator the Hon Kim Carr; and Shadow Minister for Health and Medicare, Hon Catherine King MP