



The Hon. Rob Stokes MP  
Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Cities  
Minister for Active Transport  
Member for Pittwater  
1725 Pittwater Road  
MONA VALE NSW 2103

Via email: [pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pittwater@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Minister

Thank you for your correspondence to the Minister for Metropolitan Roads about the timing for the Scotland Island Traffic Management Plan. I am responding to you as a representative of Transport for NSW.

I note your comments and appreciate your advocacy on behalf of the Scotland Island community.

The Vehicle Safety Directorate (Regulatory Operations Branch) and the Safe Systems and Programs Directorate (Centre for Road Safety) within Transport for NSW have been working toward a customer-centred and risk-based outcome for vehicle and road safety in Scotland Island.

As you are aware, the Scotland Island Residents Association has previously made representations that smaller, non-complying vehicles, such as golf buggies and ultra-light utility vehicles, are more appropriate for use on the island and have hence sought a formal policy that will allow conditional registration for these kinds of vehicles. The island residents have requested that vehicles which do not comply with minimum registration standards should be granted conditional registration since these vehicles are more convenient.

While conditional registration is offered to non-compliant vehicles that perform a specific purpose, this is generally for special purpose vehicles such as cranes or ride-on lawn mowers, where the vehicle undertakes a specialised task. The granting of conditional registration is usually at the discretion of the manager of the local Service NSW service centre, since it allows for local road conditions to be considered.

You will appreciate that roads on the island are generally narrow, with varying surface condition, and a lack of guardrail or other measures to protect errant vehicles rolling down the steep slopes closely bordering the road. Roads and road maintenance on the island is the responsibility of the Northern Beaches Council. Due to the steep nature of the island and property boundaries, there is limited opportunity for large scale road widening.

It is a long-established policy that conditional registration is not offered to vehicles if a complying vehicle can be used for the task. I am aware that several golf buggies on Scotland Island have previously been granted conditional registration for domestic purposes, which is inconsistent with Transport for NSW policy. I am also aware that some of these buggies have since had their registration revoked, but that some golf buggies remain conditionally registered.

Transport for NSW continues to assess the significant safety implications of allowing conditional registration of golf buggies and ultra-light utility vehicles, and the associated risks considering Scotland Island's current road conditions. It is anticipated that a formal response will be issued to the Northern Beaches Council by 1 June 2023, subsequent to further meetings within Transport for NSW.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry McSweeney', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

13/03/2023

**Terry McSweeney**  
**Director Customer Response**