

MEDIA RELEASE

Other States Must Follow Queensland's Lead On Curfews

The [Australian Logistics Council](#) (ALC) has congratulated the Queensland Government for its move to permit 24 hour deliveries to retail premises for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis and called on other state and territory governments to immediately follow suit.

Queensland today confirmed it will legislate to override curfews on overnight deliveries imposed by local councils for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring that supermarket shelves can be re-stocked efficiently. This will allow consumers to more readily access the essential goods they need.

“The Queensland Government should be applauded for taking this decisive step, which will support the logistics sector and local communities in the face of this unprecedented situation,” said ALC CEO Kirk Coningham.

“As ALC has emphasised in discussions with both the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, Hon. Karen Andrews and the Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government Hon. Mark Coulton, one of the biggest challenges to keeping supermarkets and other retail stores stocked in this period is the ability to physically get goods to consumers.”

“The most effective way to overcome instances of panic buying is to reassure the Australian community about the availability of essential day-to-day items, and the best way to provide that reassurance is to make certain products are on shelves when consumers need them.”

“Curfews on delivery vehicles imposed by local governments have been inhibiting that outcome, and the Queensland Government's decisive action is a welcome recognition that the logistics sector must be supported in its efforts to get goods to consumers during these extraordinary times.”

“ALC calls on other state and territory governments to immediately match Queensland's commitment today and legislate to override delivery vehicle curfews for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis.”

“Taking strong action now will allow logistics companies to get grocery items and other goods to consumers more quickly, providing reassurance to consumers that stock is available.”

“This will help to discourage panic-buying and support the logistics sector's broader efforts to enhance the resilience of Australia's supply chains in the face of the COVID-19 challenge.”

ENDS

Wednesday, 18 March 2020

Contact Simon Morgan on 0403 477 131/ simon.morgan@austlogistics.com.au