



Date: 4 August 2025

To: Director, Right to Repair Review Unit, Competition Task Force Division

Re: **Review of the Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Information Sharing Scheme**

Via email: competitiontaskforce@treasury.gov.au

To whom it concerns,

Since 1973 the Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) has advocated for electric propulsion across the full breadth of the transport sector – bikes, motorcycles and scooters, cars, light commercial vehicles, trucks, buses, trams, trains, boats and aeroplanes. AEVA's mission is to transition Australia's transport networks to electric drive as quickly as possible.

AEVA is the key non-profit membership organisation that represents EV owners, consumers and end users. We have more than 2,000 members across Australia and our growing membership reflects the increasing interest of Australians in EV ownership and the need for supportive government policy at the federal, state and local level.

In general, AEVA supports the continuation of the existing Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Information Sharing Scheme and strongly endorses its mandate to promote competition among motor vehicle repairers. This position is held, particularly since many new EVs are introduced to the Australian market, and with the rapid speed of innovation and technological change worldwide, they often have new features and technology that repairers may not be familiar with. As a result, it is critical that independent repairers have low-cost, immediate access to the latest vehicle information to do their job safely and effectively.

AEVA does not have any specific feedback on the practical operation of the Scheme, other than those below.

Question 5-9: Technical information required for vehicle repairs should be as accessible as possible to repairers, as well as to vehicle owners. The information should be available without a charge from manufacturers or data aggregators, or at most subject to a fixed, cost-recovery fee.

It is reasonable for manufacturers and data aggregators to charge extra for specialised on-line platforms and value-added data services, provided the basic technical information could be accessed without these services at low/no-cost.

Questions 10-12: In AEVA's view, the EV-related restrictions on 'safety information' in the Scheme should be removed.

Information about electrical systems should not be treated any differently to other technical information under the Scheme. It is difficult to understand any justification for these additional protections, other than some form of gatekeeping. It is inappropriate for the Scheme to be used as an indirect means of restricting who can work on EVs and is outside its regulatory scope.



It is the responsibility of each repairer, according to their licence and relevant State laws, to ensure that their staff are properly trained to deal with EVs and indeed any potentially dangerous repair work. Making technical information about electrical systems available does not in itself pose a hazard.

This is not a question of more or better training for EV technicians, although may well be needed for other reasons. Restricting critical information is fundamentally the wrong way to address safety practices within repairers. This appears to be simply anti-competitive gatekeeping.

Separately, we agree that it is not appropriate for the Scheme to cover vehicle-level telematics information without further research into the privacy implications and when or whether it is required for diagnosis or repairs. However, this is potentially an important issue that will only become more relevant for Australian vehicle owners. We would encourage the close engagement of the Australian Privacy Commissioner in looking at the implications of telematics data, including in the accident and repair context.

We would be pleased to meet with you to discuss any policy matters related to electric vehicles and electrification of transport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris Jones', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Dr Chris Jones
President,
Australian Electric Vehicle Association