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Special Minister of State, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Transport,
Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy

**Ron Hoenig**

Minister for Local Government

Media Release

Cutting red tape for mobile businesses working across LGAs

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Food trucks, outdoor fitness trainers and other mobile businesses will be rescued from red tape that stops them moving easily across local council boundaries to do business.

Under the new Mutual Recognition Scheme, councils can recognise each other's approvals for mobile businesses. Once mobile businesses have approval to operate in one council area, they may request recognition across multiple LGAs, without needing to duplicate the process for each new council area.

Until now a mobile business wanting to move from one park or street to another, that happens to be in a different LGA, would face multiple new forms, waiting periods and application fees in each council area. Now a food truck providing an environmental impact statement, food safety plans and business registration would only need to submit that detailed information once.

Councils will have the discretion to not recognise approvals from other councils if they don't want to, but they are encouraged to take advantage of the new scheme, which include the ability to require local conditions to be met.

This is the latest push from the Minns Labor Government to cut red tape and costs in order to boost vibrancy across NSW. Outdoor operators including food trucks, market stalls, buskers and fitness trainers play an important role in boosting vibrancy and economic activity. This reform will reduce their administrative burden and allow them to meet demand where it exists.

This responds to this week's NSW Productivity and Equality Commissioner's *Review of regulatory barriers impeding a vibrant 24-hour economy*, which recommends further reduction in red tape to unlock vibrancy across the state.

The Mutual Recognition Scheme builds on the following vibrancy reforms under the Minns Labor Government including supporting more than 20 local councils planning Special Entertainment Precincts, ending single serial noise complaints, extending trading hours for venues that host live entertainment, reducing red tape around entertainment and outdoor spaces, scrapping the 5km sign in rule at clubs and rolling out \$14.9 million in Uptown Grants to support entertainment hubs.

Minister for Music and the Night-time Economy John Graham said:

"Mobile businesses should be mobile, not stuck in unnecessary red tape that stops them moving across imaginary lines.

"This is another classic example of unnecessary rules getting in the way of fun and economic activity. We're on a mission to cut this kind of red tape wherever we find it.

“These mobile businesses bring colour and life to our streets, they bring people together and allow businesses to meet changing trends and behaviours. Mutual Recognition is about allowing them to do that without burying them in admin.

“Councils are our key partners in the vibrancy agenda – so we’re happy to also ease their paperwork burden through this reform.”

Minister for Local Government Ron Hoenig said:

“Councils play an important role in building community connections and making public spaces open and inviting to all.

“We should be doing what we can to encourage this and that’s why the government has introduced the Mutual Recognition Scheme.

“For mobile businesses it means fewer hoops to jump through with council approvals. For councils, it means less paperwork with the added benefit of making it easier to run events and activate public spaces.

“The scheme has been designed in close consultation with councils to be flexible and adaptive to local needs.”

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