

Carriage of Goods on Buses

1.0 POLICY STATEMENT

- 1.1 While ACTION endeavours to allow passengers to bring all of their accompanying items on board ACTION buses, in the interests of safety and comfort to passengers and drivers, ACTION may restrict the size, type and quantity of goods that can be carried into the cabin of a bus.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under regulation 39 of the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Regulation 2002*, a bus driver has the responsibility of ensuring the safety and comfort of passengers and drivers. This policy outlines the obligations of drivers and passengers in relation to the carriage of goods on buses. For the purpose of this policy, 'goods' include all personal property and movable possessions.

3.0 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 In developing this policy, Public Transport has consulted with ACTION Buses and Territory and Municipal Services Governance Branch.
- 3.2 Public Transport has also consulted the Queensland Department of Main Roads, Public Transport Victoria, Transport for NSW, the Tasmanian Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources and the Western Australian Department of Transport.

4.0 SAFE CARRIAGE OF GOODS

- 4.1 ACTION has a responsibility to ensure that goods carried into the cabin of a bus do not impede the safety and comfort of drivers and passengers.
- 4.2 A decision made by a driver in relation to carriage of goods is final and a driver will exercise discretion in light of operational practicality.
- 4.3 The passenger is responsible for the carriage of their goods on and off the bus. Bus drivers are not permitted to assist a passenger with loading or unloading of goods.
- 4.4 Some of the factors that a driver may consider when considering the carriage of goods are:
- 4.4.1 Whether the goods might block the aisle or exits, or obscure the vision of the driver.
 - 4.4.2 Whether the goods can be easily carried on or off the bus by the passenger.
 - 4.4.3 Whether the goods can be stored safely and securely within the cabin of the bus.
 - 4.4.4 Whether the bus is already close to its carrying capacity.

5.0 STORAGE OF GOODS

- 5.1 Goods must be stored in a safe and secure manner within the cabin of ACTION buses. Goods can be stored within the luggage rack of the cabin or on the floor of the bus, providing the goods do not cause inconvenience or create a risk of danger to passengers. Where safe to do so, passengers may also store goods on their lap.
- 5.2 In considering whether goods can be stored safely, drivers may give regard to factors such as whether the goods are in an appropriate carry bag and also the potential risk to passengers if the goods are not securely contained.

5.3 Decisions in relation to safe storage will be made at the discretion of the driver and as outlined in clause 4 of this policy.

6.0 DANGEROUS GOODS

6.1 ACTION considers the following types of goods as dangerous and prohibits their carriage on board ACTION buses at all times:

6.1.1 Any controlled or prohibited weapons such as firearms or knives.

6.1.2 Any motor vehicle battery.

6.1.3 Any explosive (including gas bottles or fireworks), or any type of fuel such as petrol (including jerry cans).

6.1.4 Any syringes other than a syringe used for medical reasons.

6.1.5 Any goods likely to spill, stain or cause any damage to a bus.

7.0 LEGISLATIVE AND OTHER REFERENCES

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Regulation 2002 (ACT)

Dangerous Goods (Road Transport) Regulation 2010 (ACT)

Passenger Transport Regulation 2007 (NSW)

Passenger Transport Services Regulations 2013 (TAS)

Bus Safety Regulations 2010 (Vic)

Public Transport (Passenger Safety) Act 2008 (NT)

Passenger Transport Regulations 2009 (SA)

Transport Operations (Passenger Transport) Standard 2010 (QLD)

Public Transport Authority Regulations 2003 (WA)

ACTION's Bikes and Buses Policy

8.0 FEEDBACK

8.1 Feedback in relation to decisions about carriage of goods may be made in accordance with ACTION's [Feedback and Complaints Handling Policy](#).