

Preparing local government for driverless vehicles

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Highly and fully automated connected electric vehicles are being trialed in many jurisdictions and Commonwealth and state governments are currently working on reforms to allow them to operate across our road system. Local government is generally not well prepared for these vehicles, their impacts, their requirements and their enabling mechanisms. A series of actions are needed by local government including infrastructure changes and policy amendments. This paper provides a summary of the issues and impacts, describes what it means for local government, and discusses what local government should be doing now to be better prepared so as to maximise the benefits that come with this advanced technology.