



Australian Government

Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications

# Office of Road Safety newsletter

April 2021

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## New serious injuries dashboard

In a first step for the National Road Safety Data Hub, the new national road crash serious injuries dashboard is now available.

The dashboard presents dynamic visualisations of the latest available hospitalisation data and enables a provisional baseline to be established to monitor progress against serious injury reduction targets in the next National Road Safety Strategy.

The Bureau of Infrastructure and Transport Research Economics (BITRE) is leading a project to provide a national source of serious injury data by linking hospital and police crash data records. This is a multi-phased project, currently focused on developing a national historical series, with a view to then delivering annual updates of the linked series. The aim of project is an automated, regular flow of serious injury data to better inform prevention strategies and countermeasures. The Data Hub will continue to work with data providers to improve the timeliness of national serious injury data.

The dashboard is available via the new [National Road Safety Data Hub webpage](#) on the Office of Road Safety website. The page contains information on the Data Hub's development and will be periodically updated as work progresses including future dashboards.

## National Road Safety Strategy update

Over 100 submissions were received during the recent consultation on the [draft National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30](#). Thank you to all of those who provided feedback and participated, including through making a submission and attending the 10 consultation sessions.

The Office of Road Safety is now analysing submissions to inform finalisation of the Strategy and development of the accompanying five-year national Action plan. We will continue to work with state and territory governments, along with the Australian Local Government Association, Australia New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency, National Transport Commission, Austroads and the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to review the feedback received and finalise the Strategy and Action Plan for endorsement by governments.

## School holidays road safety reminder

With many hitting the roads to enjoy a break these school holidays, the Australian Government is urging travellers to keep road safety front of mind.

“Road safety is always important, but particularly over the Easter period. As many Australians are taking the opportunity to get together with family and friends or take a much-needed break, it is crucial for everyone on our roads to think about their safety and the safety of others,” the Deputy Prime Minister said.

“Over the past five years, an average of 15 people have lost their lives over the Easter period. This is a tragic and unnecessary loss of life, with immeasurable impacts for the loved ones and communities left behind.”

“The Government is taking significant steps to improve road safety for all Australians, including by investing more than \$2.5 billion directly for road safety upgrades and vital services, such as providing \$8 million to upgrade Driver Reviver sites across the country,” Assistant Minister for Road Safety and Freight Transport Scott Buchholz said.

[Read the Ministers’ full media release here.](#)

## New provisions under the Road Vehicle Standards legislation commence

Implementation of the [Road Vehicle Standards \(RVS\) legislation](#) moved a step closer this month. Applications to have a vehicle added to the [Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicles \(SEVs\) Register](#) and to become an [authorised vehicle verifier](#) (AVV) opened in [ROVER](#) on 1 April.

AVV approval holders will assess road vehicles modified or manufactured by a [registered automotive workshop](#) for their compliance with applicable national road vehicle standards.

To meet specialist and enthusiast demand more effectively, the RVS legislation introduces new SEVs eligibility criteria.

For a vehicle to be added to the SEVs Register the vehicle must not have been provided in Australia under a type approval and must meet 1 of 6 eligibility criteria. Please visit the new [SEVs](#) webpage and detailed guide for more information.

In preparation for the RVS legislation’s full implementation on 1 July 2021, a range of other detailed guides have also been published including for [vehicle type approvals](#), [vehicle type approval opt-in arrangements](#) and [low ATM trailers](#) (trailers with an [aggregate trailer mass](#) (ATM)  $\leq$  4.5 tonnes).

Applications for [component type approvals](#) and [testing facility](#) approvals are already open. Companies and individuals interested in applying are encouraged to [apply now](#) so they are ready for the 1 July start.

## Draft Heavy Vehicle Safety Strategy 2021-2025

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) is seeking feedback on the draft *Heavy Vehicle Safety Strategy 2021-2025*.

The Safety Strategy sets out the NHVR’s strategic ambitions to improve heavy vehicle safety outcomes and contribute to a reduction in the number of crashes, fatalities and serious injuries involving heavy vehicles.

It supports the NHVR’s agenda to create positive change in individual behaviour and industry culture to improve safety, and to regulate a modern, safer heavy vehicle fleet that reduces the likelihood and impact of crashes.

The NHVR and the Office of Road Safety are working closely in the development of the *National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30*, and the draft Heavy Vehicle Safety Strategy is aligned to the draft *National Road Safety Strategy 2021-30*.

For more information and to view the draft Safety Strategy, visit the [NHVR website](#). Submissions close on Friday 30 April 2021.

# Awareness and Enablers Fund delivering results

The first two of 21 projects under the Australian Government's \$4 million Road Safety Awareness and Enablers fund have been officially completed.

The Western Australian **Shire of Kojonup – Variable Speed Displays project** received \$7,555 under the program, around a quarter of the total project cost. The funding allowed Council to purchase and install radar speed signs at three key locations across the rural shire.

The signs present drivers with a visual display of their speed, which often results in drivers immediately adjusting their speed if they are driving over the posted limit. In addition, the data collected through the signs provides the council with information on traffic volumes and travel speed, assisting it to adopt road safety improvement measures.

Also in Western Australia, **Eastern Metropolitan Regional Council – Share the Space Campaign project** received \$20,000 through the fund, with a total project cost of \$67,103.

The project involved development of animated videos, short clips and print graphics to deliver an eight-week, multi-channel campaign designed to spread awareness of appropriate use of shared spaces, such as paths, shared zones and trails. The campaign was successful in starting a dialogue on safe and courteous behaviour in shared spaces and won a *2020 Your Move Innovate* award, which recognise schools, local governments and workplaces in getting people walking, cycling and taking the bus and train more often.

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## Stay in touch

If you would like to get in touch with the Office of Road Safety, please email us or go to our website:

e: [officeofroadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:officeofroadsafety@infrastructure.gov.au)

w: [www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au](http://www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au)



## ROAD SAFETY EVENTS

### April

- 16 April – Georgina Josephine Foundation Low Speed Vehicle Run Over Prevention Awareness Day
- 23 April – Driver Fatigue Awareness Day

### May

- 6 May – Roads Australia Spotlight on Safety
- 14 May – Walk Safely to School Day
- 16-23 May – National Road Safety Week
- 29 May – Fatality Free Friday

For more events, visit

[www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/events](http://www.officeofroadsafety.gov.au/events)