



Office of Road Safety: Update Two – July 2019

Recent Developments

Now that we are close to the one month mark since we established the Office of Road Safety, it seems timely to provide an update on developments.

As initially flagged, our focus is on the Transport and Infrastructure Council meeting on Friday 2 August 2019, where ministers will be considering further actions in response to the Inquiry into the National Road Safety Strategy.

We are also working on progressing the new programs announced in Budget, and settling the ongoing arrangements for the Office. The Office of Road Safety appreciate the time that many of you have given them, helping to build their skills by taking advantage of the fantastic depth of knowledge in Australia about road safety. The Office was represented at the week-long intensive Road Safety Management Leadership Program run by the Monash University Accident Research Centre.

In the near future, the Office is looking to develop a calendar of events to support our further engagement with the Australian road safety community. That means we are interested in learning more about the events that you will be hosting, and potentially to discuss opportunities for our involvement. The events we are particularly focused on are opportunities to further explain to the general public the Safe System approach to road safety. We welcome any information from you on the events you may have planned over the next 12 months.

United Nations Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations

In terms of other recent developments, the 178th session of the United Nations (UN) World Forum for the Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (Working Party 29 - the peak forum for the development of international road vehicle standards) saw the new UN regulation for Autonomous Emergency Braking (AEB) for passenger cars and light commercial vehicles voted in. There are some outstanding technical issues still to be resolved before the regulation can be fully adopted by the Forum but we expect this to happen by the end of the year or early in 2020. Now that the details of the standard have essentially been settled, we will be in a position to prepare a Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) for light vehicles at the end of this year. We will share further news as it becomes available.

Roadside Drug Testing Dashboard

The Roadside Drug Testing Dashboard for Australia in 2018 was published on Friday 26 July, on the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics' website (www.bitre.gov.au). It is also available on the National Road Safety Strategy website (www.roadsafety.gov.au). This new dashboard presents annual counts of roadside drug tests in Australia, proportion of positive results,

and where available, the number of annual road deaths involving an illegal drug. It will be updated annually and published on BITRE's website. Monitoring the number of roadside drug tests addresses priority action 5 to increase roadside drug testing significantly in all states and territories in the National Road Safety Action Plan 2018-2020. If you have any comments or observations about the new dashboard, Gary Dolman and the BITRE team would be very keen to hear from you.

Department Updates

Jessica Hall has started as the Executive Director in Surface Transport Policy Division, which the Office of Road Safety sits within. Many of you may know Jessica as she headed up the Infrastructure Investment Division so will be well placed to support efforts to better align our investment in infrastructure with road safety outcomes. The Department's organisation chart can be found at the following link - https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/department/about/files/org_chart.pdf.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Office of Road Safety and we will provide further updates as our work progresses over the coming months.