



MEDIA RELEASE

WALKING SAFELY

Mr Geoff Corrigan MP, Chair of the NSW Parliament's Staysafe Committee, today tabled the Committee's report on Pedestrian Safety.

"The high rate of pedestrian casualties on NSW roads is alarming", said Mr Corrigan. "The previous Minister for Roads asked the Committee to report on the implications of this recent trend as a matter of urgency and the Committee has conducted this Inquiry in less than seven months".

"As road users, we are all pedestrians at some time and rely on others using the road network to share responsibility for our collective safety. This means that while pedestrians have an obligation to obey the rules of the road and to act responsibly, it is also incumbent on vehicle drivers, motorcyclists and others to recognise the vulnerability of pedestrians, particularly those that are young or elderly, and act accordingly", Mr Corrigan continued.

"One of the more controversial recommendations in this Report is the implementation and deployment of random, covert speed cameras throughout New South Wales. Evidence from Victoria indicates that the introduction of such cameras reduced the rate of pedestrian fatalities significantly in that State". "The use of covert cameras in NSW will benefit all road user groups, particularly pedestrians," said Mr Corrigan.

Other significant recommendations in the Report include improvements to data collection, increased public safety campaigns and pedestrian education programs, improvements to road design and technology and improved consultation in relation to the determination of speed zones.

"Adoption of the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee should be undertaken as a matter of urgency to address the high rate of pedestrian casualties, a trend which has continued throughout the year to date. The Committee's Report should greatly assist road safety practitioners, researchers, educators, road users and Government agencies to collectively respond with countermeasures designed to improve pedestrian safety", Mr Corrigan concluded.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Geoff Corrigan, Committee Chair, on 0412 551 768.

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