

**From:** [Fiona Frost](#)  
**To:** [StaySafe](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Uncorrected Transcript - 7 August 2020 - Blacktown City Council.pdf  
**Date:** Monday, 7 September 2020 1:41:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

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Hi Ben

Apologies for not getting this to you earlier.

Information that we have from working with the police is that people driving on foreign licences for extended periods is a issue in our area, and probably in most parts of the state. This is not about tourists who are here for a limited time and will leave. The issue seems to be that a person is not required to get a NSW licence until they have residency. For those who are waiting for residency for several years, they are very often driving on their overseas licence and have no NSW licencing involvement for a long time. This means that police have no local contact details for them if they are involved in a crash and demerit points do not apply if they have committed an offence as they don't have a NSW licence. Other issues for "foreign" drivers seem to be around seatbelts and car seats but that may be because this is a particular area of interest for me. What has been suggested is that a driver could be allowed to drive in NSW/Australia for 3 months and then they would be required to obtain a NSW "Q" licence. This licence type is for someone who doesn't have residency. The 3 month provision would not be detrimental to most tourists.

In terms of numbers, the best numbers I have available is that for the five years to Dec 2018 there were 124 interstate or overseas drivers involved in reported crashes out of a total of 10588 making it less that 1.2%. Overseas drivers therefor making an even smaller contribution. The double fatality mentioned during the hearing was in 2019 so not yet in the reported crash data. The issue here is really not so much about the crashes but about the level of driver knowledge and understanding when driving on our roads.

**Recommendation:** That a driver with an overseas drivers licence be allowed to drive in NSW/Australia for a maximum of 3 months. They would then be required to obtain a NSW "Q" licence or full licence depending on residency.

Thanks again for the opportunity to participate.

Regards

Fiona

Blacktown City Council



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