

Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety Parliament of New South Wales

Dear Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety,

Question on Notice - Inquiry Into Support for Rural and Regional Learner Drivers

Youth Action appreciates the opportunity to respond to the question below on notice. We would like to thank the Committee for your ongoing work inquiring into support for rural and regional learner drivers.

Question (verbatim): What is your view on the New South Wales Government's previous restricted P1 provisional licence pilot? As you know, that allowed a person to get a restricted P1 provisional licence after holding a learner's licence for six months and completing 50 supervised driving hours. Do you have any support for what was there but the Government has scrapped it? Should it be reintroduced or not?

Youth Action was unable to find extensive information about the NSW Government's Restricted P1 Provisional Licence Pilot. Transport for NSW may have further information regarding the outcomes of the program and the decision for it not to be continued.

The pilot program did address the important role of a licence for young people in rural and regional areas for accessing employment, education, and healthcare. While it was only available to individuals in selected locations, if offered to a larger cohort, it could assist more young people in rural and regional areas to obtain their provisional licence.

We believe that the expansion of the Pilot should occur in conjunction with other strategies which address the barriers faced by learner drivers in obtaining a licence. The pilot program alone would not address the barriers some young people face in completing the driver knowledge test (DKT), accessing a driving instructor or reaching 50 hours of supervised driving.

We have included links below to some of the information we did find on the Restricted P1 Provisional Licence Pilot.

https://www.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-08/45071739-restricted-p1-licence-pilot-consent-form.pdf

https://acrs.org.au/files/papers/69%20Ma_NPR.pdf

Please let us know if we can provide any further information.