

**Submission**

**No 2**

## **INQUIRY INTO SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY**

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While school safety zones are an important aspect of child safety, they have an impact on other road users and several measures should be considered to both maximise the effectiveness of school zones and minimise their impact on other road users.

1. School zones are often unclear. Sometimes the school is not obvious. Sometimes there are several adjacent schools leading to a longer than expected school zone. Sometimes a large vehicle such as a truck in the kerbside lane can block the view of the school zone sign.

More obvious road markings, similar to the bus lane coloured pavement (perhaps in yellow) that extended the whole length of the school zone would improve compliance and safety. While this measure would require additional expenditure, the government seems to have found the money to colour the bus lanes red and this would be a similar level of expenditure.

2. Where schools are on very busy roads, more extensive measures are justified.

Such schools should be re-oriented. The side facing the busy road should be closed with a physical barrier, such as a noise barrier with no gate, so that the school does not face the busy road at all. Many schools already face more than one street, but in some cases one or two blocks of land would need to be acquired to provide an alternative entrance.