

INQUIRY INTO YOUNG DRIVER SAFETY AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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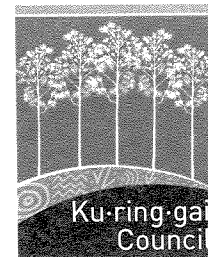
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Clerk-Assistant (Committees)
Legislative Assembly
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Dear Committees

Inquiry into Young Driver Safety and Education Programs

Ku-ring-gai Council is committed to creating a safer community by reducing the number of road related accidents.

Current incidence of road crashes involving young drivers in Ku-ring-gai.

Between 2001 and 2005, motor vehicle drivers aged 17- 25 accounted for 1782 accidents in the Ku-ring-gai Local Government Area. Research also shows that males in this age group represent a slightly higher proportion of casualties as motor vehicle drivers and there is a higher concentration of males aged 17-25 years (approx 40%) as passenger casualties.

Ku-ring-gai Council employs a full-time Road Safety Officer, who is responsible for addressing the road safety issues within Ku-ring-gai and raising community awareness amongst the various target groups through enforcement, education and engineering efforts.

Some of the current programs being run which aim to improve young driver safety include:

Graduated Licensing Scheme (GLS) Workshops

Project Objectives

- To raise parent's awareness about the importance of supervised driving practice.
- To provide parents with strategies to help their new drivers become safe drivers.
- To increase compliance with the Learner Driver Log Book.

Target Group

Parents and supervisors of learner drivers

Project Description

GLS workshops help to explain the graduated licensing system to supervisors of learner drivers. This program is an initiative of the RTA and Council with costs split between the RTA

and Council. Topics covered in the workshop include how to use the Learner driver logbook, how to plan driving sessions, how to deal with difficult situations and the importance of providing constructive feedback.

Ku-ring-gai Council holds a minimum of 2 workshops per financial year. The workshops are always popular and well received as they offer practical advice and give supervisors the knowledge and confidence required to supervise young drivers.

It is recommended that any evaluation on this initiative be requested from the RTA.

b. Parent survival strategies for teaching young drivers

Project Objectives

To raise parent's awareness about the importance of supervised driving practice and to equip them with practical tools on how to teach their learner drivers effectively.

Target Group

Learner drivers and parents and supervisors of learner drivers.

Project Description

The workshop covers vital aspects of WHAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW when teaching a young driver:

- * A comprehensive and organised approach to the driving task
- * Road law understanding and application
- * How to survive and get the message across
- * Low risk driving

The committee has implemented 3 workshops per year for the last 2 years.

Please contact Carroll Howe the organiser for further information regarding this initiative.

Carroll Howe (Chair)

Ku-ring-gai Police and Community Safety Committee

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If you require any further information please contact Council's Road Safety Officer, Maria Russo on 9424 0843.

Kind regards



Greg Piconi

Director Operations