

**EXAMINATION OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL'S  
PERFORMANCE AUDIT REPORTS SEPTEMBER  
2013 – JULY 2014**

**Organisation:** Audit Office of NSW

**Date Received:** 3 November 2015

Mr Bruce Notley-Smith MP  
Chair  
Public Accounts Committee  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contact: Kathrina Lo  
Phone no: 9275 7310  
Our ref: P001915  
Your ref:

3 November 2015

Dear Mr Notley-Smith

### **Follow up of Auditor-General's Reports**

I refer to advice received on Thursday 29 October 2015 requesting my comments on a response from the Department of Justice on Report No. 238 - Improving Legal and Safe Driving Among Aboriginal People.

As you will recall, I provided my comments to the Committee on 20 August 2015 in relation to the responses provided by the other responding agencies. As requested, I provide the following comments on this response to enable the Committee to consider it as part of its public hearings being held on Monday 9 November 2015.

We acknowledge the steps taken by the Department of Justice to implement the audit report's recommendations. In particular, we acknowledge initiatives to expand Work and Development Order completions among Aboriginal inmates.

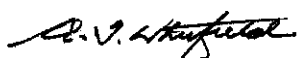
Like Transport for NSW, the Department of Justice's response offers little detail about the achievements of the inter-agency working group or future strategies.

The Department notes that delivering on recommendations is hampered by 'mandatory licence disqualifications' for unauthorised driving. An important reform to overcome this obstacle is the proposal to allow people who have served out a certain length of disqualification period 'offence free' to be able to have the court lift the disqualification. We note that Cabinet has approved but is likely to revisit this proposal. The PAC may wish to ask the Department of Justice to provide an update on the status of this reform.

Should you wish to discuss this matter, please contact me on 9275 7101 or Kathrina Lo, Assistant Auditor-General Performance Audit on 9275 7310.

Thank you for the opportunity to assist the Committee with its work.

Yours sincerely



A T Whitfield PSM  
Acting Auditor-General