

**Submission  
No 27**

## **REDUCING TRAUMA ON LOCAL ROADS IN NSW**

**Organisation:** Upper Lachlan Shire Council

**Date Received:** 6 March 2020

Dear Members of the Committee

This email provides a brief submission to the inquiry raising issues and recommends a way forward for the consideration.

NSW have fatalities on local roads and fatalities are disproportionality higher within Upper Lachlan Shire Council. While the causes of the accidents are statistically well documented at the NSW Centre for Road Safety, the comments below provides an overview from Upper Lachlan Shire as a road manager.

It is suggested that there is a lack of integrated approach to road safety. It is noted that part of the road network is managed by Transport for New South Wales, some roads are managed by local councils in addition to some private and Crown roads. This provides a fragmented regulatory framework to road safety. Additionally, and a primary concerns, the road driver behaviour is largely controlled by the NSW State Government through enforcement and transport through education, local council providing infrastructure does not participate in this integrated response to road safety related to local roads. Additionally, vehicle manufacturing is largely regulated at the Commonwealth level and latest heavy vehicle reform, though a positive steps, lacks this integration affecting road safety. Roads lack uniform standards and lack that uniformity from one Council to other. While tailored local solution is ideal, however, a serious risk to life must oversee the need for inconsistent road safety standards.

In summary, it is worth exploring to have a uniform engineering standards applied to road construction and maintenance mandated by legislation and funded through flexible (rating land based or kilometre use based) rating changes. Additionally, it is recommended that safety is considered as a whole, including safer vehicle, safer road and safer driver together in a statutory mandated manner working across lga boundary.

For further information, Council is happy to provide more details and support to the inquiry.

Regards

Mursaleen Shah  
Director of Infrastructure  
Upper Lachlan Shire Council  
M: PO Box 42, Gunning, NSW, 2581



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