



## **Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee**

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*The Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee was appointed by the Queensland Parliament on 25 August 2005 to examine a range of issues regarding petrol pricing in Queensland.*

# **Media Release**

## **Tips for Consumers**

The report of the non-partisan Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee tabled today in the Queensland Parliament contains practical tips for consumers trying to cope with higher fuel prices.

Consumers should seek to take advantage of price cycles and purchase fuel when the price is low, regardless of whether or not the tank is empty.

Ensuring your car is properly maintained also assists, as does keeping tyre pressures at correct levels. Removing unnecessary weight such as gear stored in the boot, and items such as roof racks can also assist.

Evidence before the committee suggested adopting eco-driving techniques could not only save you fuel, but also reduce crash risks.

Reductions in fuel consumption of 30% are achievable by changing driving habits, including:

- Changing to second gear quickly
- Driving to match the rhythm of the traffic
- Avoiding 'stop-start' driving
- Using higher gears where possible
- Gentle acceleration rather than aggressive driving
- Using the engine's torque more and keeping the engine speed below 3,000 revs, and
- Keeping engine idling to a minimum

The committee took evidence that consumers were cutting down on driving trips, opting for more fuel efficient vehicles when purchasing a new car and switching to public transport.

Sales of motorcycles, scooters and bicycles have also skyrocketed.

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*For further information see Chapter 5 of the report of the Impact of Petrol Pricing Select Committee. The report is available at [www.parliament.qld.gov.au/petrol](http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/petrol)*

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### **For interviews:**

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