

## Question on Notice

No. 1815

Asked on Tuesday 25 November 2008

MR WEIGHTMAN ASKED THE MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (MR MICKEL) —

QUESTION:

With reference to the problem of speeding on Queensland roads—

What is the government doing to reduce road fatalities and injuries sustained through speeding?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is addressing the complex problem of speeding using a combination of education, engineering and enforcement. These policies and programs aim to reduce driver speeds, thereby reducing road trauma (both in terms of the number and the severity of crashes) and promoting safer roads for all Queenslanders.

I am advised anti-speeding policies and programs which are well-established in Queensland include:

- the Safer Roads Sooner infrastructure prioritisation program;
- the Camera Detected Offence Program which is based on the principle of general deterrence: motorists should expect to see a speed camera "anywhere, anytime" and are therefore more likely to monitor their speeds at all times. The mobile speed camera program in Queensland has been independently evaluated numerous times by Monash University Accident Research Centre since its introduction in 1997. The most recent evaluation estimated that, for the period 1 January 2006 to 30 June 2006, the number of serious casualty crashes prevented by the speed camera program was 1348. This represents an estimated \$848.4m total social cost; and
- the use of speed cameras which has contributed to the ability of police to deliver a greater on-road presence, as fewer officers are required to deploy a speed camera compared to traditional means of speed enforcement.

I am advised speed management in Queensland is constantly reviewed and renewed. New approaches to the problem of speed include:

- Queensland Transport's new anti-speeding campaign 'Slow down stupid' which is aimed at the main perpetrators of speed related crashes, males aged 17 to 39 years, reminding them to slow down, if not for themselves, then for their family and friends. In its first phase 'Slow down stupid' features two television commercials, outdoor billboards, and online advertising;
- plans for road infrastructure improvements and, as an interim measure, a small number of select road sections with a history of crashes are the focus of the new 'black links' program. Treatments under this program include reduced speed limits and additional signage warning motorists of the crash risk; and
- as part of the Camera Detected Offence Program, a trial of three unmarked speed camera vehicles will be undertaken to heighten the "anywhere, anytime" deterrent effect targeting those areas where the road toll remains high.