

Question on Notice

No. 422

Asked on 11 May 2022

MR S MINNIKIN ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the recent announcement about increased traffic fines—

Will the Minister provide an updated response to Question on Notice No. 1602 asked on 2 December 2021?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Chatsworth for the question.

In 2021, there were 275 lives lost on Queensland roads, which is 27 fatalities greater than the previous five-year average. Every life lost on the roads is a tragedy that impacts families and communities across Queensland. The Camera Detected Offence Program (CDOP) is an important component of Queensland's approach to deter high-risk driving offences and improve safe driving behaviour to reduce road trauma.

CDOP—now incorporating speed, red-light, mobile phone and seatbelt offences—is leading the country, and we expect the program's proven ability to reduce road trauma to continue to grow with the introduction of the new cameras. The program is integral to Queensland achieving its vision of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2050. It is underpinned by evidence of what influences behaviour change, including the severity of the penalty and the perception of being caught.

Penalties and demerit points are an effective way of deterring dangerous high-risk driving behaviours. To send a strong deterrent message to drivers who engage in these high-risk driving behaviours, new penalties will be introduced from 1 July 2022. A comprehensive public education campaign commenced on 9 May 2022 in the lead up to the introduction of these new penalties, to warn Queenslanders and to discourage dangerous driving habits and reduce road trauma.

As the new mobile phone and seatbelt cameras commenced operations from 1 November 2021, the full annual impact of the expanded program will not be realised until 2022–23. A number of underlying assumptions are used to model future year revenue impacts, one of which is the anticipated change to driver behaviour, with increased visibility of cameras across the network. The 'Anywhere, Anytime' philosophy of CDOP is key to how quickly behavioural change can be achieved. That is why CDOP has a forward year expansion program to ensure that maximum road safety benefits are achieved.

As an example, from February 2020—when the increased mobile phone penalties commenced to March 2021—there was an average 58 per cent reduction in infringements issued. This is promising, and it is anticipated that the new mobile phone seatbelt cameras will strengthen this impact on improving driver behaviour. As the mobile phone and seatbelt camera program is still relatively new, revenue estimates are continually reviewed and adjusted based on current trends and predicted future performance.

It is important to note that funding collected from the CDOP is reinvested back into road safety. Revenue since the 2016–17 financial year is outlined in the following table.

Year	Revenue (\$,000)
2023–24	477,045 (estimate)
2022–23	437,558 (estimate)
2021–22	264,688 (estimate)
2020–21	200,618 (actual)
2019–20	172,242 (actual)
2018–19	191,607 (actual)
2017–18	166,096 (actual)
2016–17	132,779 (actual)