

Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports Minister for Energy and Water Supply

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Dr Richard Bean Co-convenor Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group GPO Box 2104 BRISBANE QLD 4001

Richard.

Dear Dr Bean

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2015 about the enforcement of the one metre rule for passing cyclists.

Firstly, thank you for taking the time to share your road safety concerns about the enforcement of the one metre rule. The Queensland Government actively encourages members of the community to get involved in helping shape road safety strategies to make our roads in Queensland safer and ultimately reduce the road toll.

As you know, the benefit of trialling the one metre rule for two years is so that members of the community, such as the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG), can provide valuable feedback for consideration. I am pleased to advise CBD BUG that encouraging feedback is being received from the community about how the one metre rule is generally having a positive road safety impact in terms of changing the behaviours and attitudes of motorists towards cyclists.

I note your particular concerns about the enforcement of the one metre rule and I see you have forwarded your correspondence to the Honourable Jo-Ann Miller MP, Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services. As enforcement of the road rules is the responsibility of the Queensland Police, Minister Miller is best placed to provide you with a response in relation to your feedback and query regarding police policy for enforcement of the one metre rule.

I also note your comments about the evaluation of the trial for which the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) has engaged the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety - Queensland (CARRS-Q) to undertake, and that you have forwarded your correspondence to Professor Narelle Haworth, Acting Director at CARRS-Q.

The road safety impact of the one metre rule will be examined in terms of changes in injury incidence and severity for cyclists. As part of the evaluation, CARRS-Q will examine police-reported crash data, hospital data and self-report data from cyclists who complete the survey about the practical impact of the one metre rule. Data prior to the one metre rule being introduced (baseline data) does exist for crash and hospital data sources, as these collections have been in place for many years. CARRS-Q also plans to compare the survey responses to other surveys that have been conducted with cyclists prior to the introduction of the one metre rule, where possible. The survey will also provide information about near

misses, which is not available elsewhere and will provide a valuable contribution to the evaluation.

Cyclists have the right to be treated with courtesy and care by other road users, just as they have a responsibility to be courteous to other road users. Safety on our roads is contingent on all road users acting responsibly, sharing the roads safely, obeying the laws, and considering the rights and safety of others.

Your feedback is appreciated and always welcome. I assure you that the concerns you have raised about the one metre rule will be considered during TMR's evaluation.

I trust this information about the enforcement of the one metre rule is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP

Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and

Minister for Energy and Water Supply