

# // TravelSafe Committee recommendations progress report

Successive Queensland Parliaments have established Select Committees on TravelSafe to monitor, investigate and report on all aspects of road safety and public transport in Queensland. In the financial year 2008-09 the Committee conducted an inquiry and issued the *Report on the inquiry into Automatic Number Plate Recognition Technology*. This report made six recommendations (outlined in the attached Annexure A) with the Minister for Transport and the Minister for Main Roads having responsibility for five of these recommendations. The Government's response was tabled in Parliament on 18 June 2009.

The 53rd Queensland Parliament did not establish a Select Committee on TravelSafe. Accordingly, this is the final report on the actions the DTMR will take to implement outstanding TravelSafe recommendations. These recommendations focus on TravelSafe reports commencing from report number 46, the first report where the government agreed to inform Parliament on the status of significant issues.

The Committee made 52 recommendations, all relating to road safety, and of these 48 were supported by the government. Seventeen of these recommendations have been completed and 31 have work ongoing.

DTMR is undertaking the following program of work to address the outstanding recommendations:

- a review of drink driving policy, including identification of new countermeasures or enhancements to existing countermeasures and the development of a discussion paper for public consultation
- an outcome evaluation of the young driver safety initiatives introduced from 1 July 2007 to measure the effect of the major changes to the graduated licensed system
- research into the prevalence of unlicensed driving and the driving of unregistered vehicles and identification of factors that contribute to this behaviour
- the *Queensland Motorcycle Safety Strategy 2009-2012* outlines a blueprint that will be implemented over the next four years to enhance

the safety of motorcycle riders on Queensland roads. This strategy is the culmination of an extensive review of motorcycle training and licensing completed by the former Queensland Transport and the TravelSafe Committee. The actions identified within the strategy seek to address and/or implement a number of the recommendations that were identified by the review

- the establishment of the Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group consisting of motorcycle industry and rider representatives to advise DTMR on motorcycle safety issues
- research to develop a package of initiatives for improving motorcycle safety, including an evaluation of the Q-Ride Consistent Assessment program, investigation and development of a pre-learner licence package, investigation and development of further motorcycle safety interventions.

# Travelsafe Committee recommendations progress report cont...

## TravelSafe report number 51—report on the inquiry into Automatic Number Plate Recognition Technology

Ministerial response: 18 June 2009

Table 24 Recommendations and progress

Recommendation	Development/division responsible	Ministerial response	Progress of recommendation
1. That Queensland Transport undertakes research into the road safety benefits of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology. This research should seek to identify best practice approaches to implementing and deploying the technology to detect and deter speeding offences, heavy vehicle offences, the driving of unregistered vehicles and unlicensed driving.	Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management	Supported	Department of Transport and Main Roads have already undertaken research into the road safety benefits of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology. Department of Transport and Main Roads will assess research done by other organisations and jurisdictions and, where gaps are identified, undertake specific research in these areas. Department of Transport and Main Roads will continue to monitor research and evaluation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology and its application that is being conducted by universities and other jurisdictions.
2. That the Department of Main Roads, Queensland Transport and the Queensland Police Service continue to trial the deployment of ANPR technology for traffic enforcement work and to evaluate the road safety impacts and operational effectiveness of the technology.	Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management	Supported	<p>Queensland Police Service will continue to trial the deployment of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology for traffic enforcement work, road safety and operational efficiency. Further investigation into potential uses and development of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology will assist in the evaluation of road safety impacts and operational effectiveness of the technology.</p> <p>While the road safety benefit and efficacy of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology is still being debated, this technology can be a very effective tool in the deterrence of illegal driving behaviour on Queensland roads. The mobile Automatic Number Plate Recognition units can also play a role in driver behaviour change as they can be used 'anywhere anytime'. This approach has previously been used successfully in drink driving and speeding enforcement.</p> <p>The Queensland Police Service will conduct traffic enforcement trials of this technology, using the Department of Transport and Main Roads database of unregistered vehicles and the Queensland Police Service's Vehicle of Interest database of stolen vehicles, wanted vehicles and vehicles used by or registered to wanted or missing persons. The Queensland Police Service will evaluate its effectiveness.</p> <p>For the Department of Transport and Main Roads, Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology has a number of applications in the enforcement and monitoring of heavy vehicles. At present, the department is well advanced on the implementation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology with six fixed sites currently established with plans for a further five fixed sites within the next 12 months. These cameras will be installed at Weigh in Motion sites on key freight routes across Queensland to identify overloaded heavy vehicles and provide important compliance and enforcement information. The department currently has 16 portable Automatic Number Plate Recognition cameras that can be deployed as required on the road network to assist with road planning activities.</p>

Table 24 Recommendations and progress cont...

Recommendation	Development/ division responsible	Ministerial response	Progress of recommendation
<p>3. That safeguards and controls governing the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology be clearly articulated in enabling legislation. This legislation shall prescribe that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access to data collected by ANPR devices is restricted to authorised agencies and users</li> <li>• the collection and retention of personal information is limited to that which is necessary to achieve clearly articulated purposes</li> <li>• data relating to vehicles not found to be committing an offence shall be cleansed nightly from devices to minimise the possibility of security breaches</li> <li>• data shall be transported securely between devices and repositories and stored with high-security encryption and digital signatures</li> <li>• security systems shall be subject to regular audits to ensure they are adhered to</li> <li>• should additional and compelling public interests be served in the future by new applications of ANPR, these should only be pursued after public consultation and scrutiny by Parliament</li> <li>• the misuse of ANPR data attracts severe penalties</li> <li>• affected individuals have access to a complaints scheme to seek redress if their rights are abused.</li> </ul>	<p>Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management</p>	<p>This recommendation is supported in principle.</p>	<p>The Queensland Government supports in principle the development of enabling legislation prescribing safeguards and controls to remove ambiguities surrounding privacy issues related to Automatic Number Plate Recognition applications.</p> <p>Full consideration will be given to the TravelSafe Committee's suggestions as part of the drafting of relevant legislation. Specific issues relating to technology, permissible use, purpose and timeframes, including the benefits of retaining information for a specified period, will be examined as part of the legislative development process.</p>
<p>4. That Queensland Transport ensure that all vehicles registered in Queensland are fitted with number plates of a standard and design that can be accurately and reliably read by ANPR technology.</p>	<p>Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management</p>	<p>This recommendation is supported in principle, subject to the outcome of consultation between jurisdictions at the national level.</p>	<p>Standards for the design and placement of number plates are agreed at the national level and have been voluntarily adopted by all Australian jurisdictions in legislation. If jurisdictions develop non-uniform standards independently, there could be problems in the ability of Automatic Number Plate Recognition equipment in one state reading another state's number plates as each jurisdiction's Automatic Number Plate Recognition equipment will be calibrated to read that jurisdiction's standard plate. It is also important that specifications be clearly defined and agreed to in order to ensure that number plates can be manufactured to meet standards.</p> <p>The issues raised by the TravelSafe Committee are scheduled for consideration at the national level by the Austroads Registration and Licensing Task Force.</p>
<p>5. That the Department of Main Roads amend signage in connection with ANPR cameras on the Brisbane Urban Corridor so that all motorists are made aware that their images may be captured and recorded.</p>	<p>Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>The Automatic Number Plate Recognition camera system deployed on the Brisbane Urban Corridor only records images of heavy vehicles. The cameras capture images of the number plates of all vehicles (cars and trucks) and determine which images to retain by on-site comparison to a database of heavy vehicle registration numbers. Attributes such as date, time and location are not added to unused images and these are discarded on site. No record as defined in Information Standard 42 (IS42): Information Privacy is retained.</p> <p>Signs will be amended to ensure motorists are aware that number plate images are being captured and recorded.</p>
<p>6. That the responsible ministers provide a progress report on the implementation and/or the evaluation of ANPR in Queensland to Parliament within 12 months.</p>	<p>Department of Transport and Main Roads/Road Safety and System Management</p>	<p>Supported</p>	<p>The Department of Transport and Main Roads, and Queensland Police Service will provide a progress report on the implementation and/or the evaluation of Automatic Number Plate Recognition technology in Queensland to Parliament within 12 months.</p>

## **TravelSafe Committee recommendation reporting— recommendations from report number 1 to 50:**

### **Introduction**

The TravelSafe Committee is a select committee established by resolution of Parliament. The committee examines all aspects of road safety and public transport and, in particular, has the responsibility to monitor, investigate and report on:

- issues affecting road safety including the causes of road crashes and measures aimed at reducing deaths, injuries and economic costs to the community

- the safety of passenger transport services and measures aimed at reducing the incidence of related deaths and injuries
- measures for the enhancement of public transport in Queensland and reducing dependence on private motor vehicles as the predominant mode of transport.

### **Status of recommendations**

A recent audit of the status of recommendations made by the TravelSafe Committee in reports 1 to 50 showed that the majority of the recommendations made have been either directly addressed (as a result of the recommendation) or have been

addressed in the ordinary course of business; superseded or no longer relevant as a result of legislative or policy changes.

A small number of recommendations remain classified as 'ongoing', as they form part of major projects currently being undertaken or are waiting for other related project activities to be completed. These recommendations will be finalised upon completion of the relevant project or review.