WAKA KOTAHI NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY

NEW ZEALAND POLICE Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

Q2

ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME

Minister's Interim Quarterly Performance Report on New Zealand Police Activities

October - December 2022

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Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

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EXECUTIVE *SUMMARY*

New Zealand Police (Police), Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency, and Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport established a Road Safety Partnership Programme (RSPP) to develop co-operation and deliver road safety outcomes, directly contributing to the Road to Zero target of a 40% reduction in road deaths and serious injuries by 2030.

This paper provides you with an out-of-cycle update on New Zealand Police's performance against key RSPP activity measures for the October to December 2022 period (Q2) ahead of the Road to Zero Ministerial Oversight Group meeting scheduled for 9 February 2023. Please note the contents of this report will be reproduced in your full RSPP Quarterly Report which is expected to be completed early March 2023.

Police's road safety focus remains primarily on the four behaviours known to cause the most harm on our roads – restraints, impairment, distractions, and speed (known collectively as 'RIDS'). This update provides a high level preliminary overview of the data from Police's enforcement activities in respect of those behaviours.

The National Road Policing Centre is continuing to examine the data to draw insights and understand the factors influencing the trends.

Police, Waka Kotahi and Te Manatū Waka continue to work together to review the current RSPP Police activity measures, in accordance with a recommendation made by the Road Safety Investment and Delivery review completed by MartinJenkins in 2021. Following recent internal consultation within each agency, the parties plan to reconvene, discuss their respective views on proposed changes to the measures, and reach an agreed position. A formal recommendation on revised measures will then be provided to the Waka Kotahi Board for consideration.

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Police Performance Update

Speed

Low Level Speeding

Police is continuing to deliver a sustained increase in the proportion of officer issued infringements for speed offences between 1 and 10 km/h above the posted speed limit. While Police remains below the desired level of 15% the Q2 result of 11.9% is the most that has been achieved in the past two years, with December reaching 12.6%.

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Rural Road Enforcement

The activity level of 70% of officer-issued speed offences being detected on rural roads is difficult to measure, with a proxy measure being utilised (speed enforcement on roads with a speed limit of 80 km/h or more).

During Q2, Police launched a new national road safety operation dubbed 'Operation Open Roads'. The aim of this operation seeks to have the predominately urban based traffic units redeployed onto the rural road network (that is any undivided road with a posted speed limit of 80km/h or higher) to complement the existing highway patrol units. This will increase the visibility and presence of Police where the risk of death and serious injury is greatest.

There was a small upward tick in the percentage of speed infringements issued on rural roads in December, up to 55.7%. It remains too early to definitively say whether this increase is a direct result of the operation.

Speed Offences Detected on Rural Roads

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Mobile Safe Speed Cameras

The desired activity level for mobile speed camera hours deployment was set at 80,000 hours for the fiscal year (approximately 20,000 hours per quarter).

Police delivered 75% of the desired number of mobile camera hours in Q2, attaining 14,955 hours. While still below the desired 20,000 hours for the quarter, this does represent an increase of almost 1500 hours over the previous quarter.

Districts have been offered additional funding and are exploring the opportunity to add additional temporary FTE to support this activity.

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Impairment

Roadside breath testing and high-volume alcohol checkpoints are standard general deterrence activity carried out regularly to keep our roads safe. To enable more real-time data to be used to monitor performance of this RSPP measure, Police has implemented a centralised platform to allow data to be regularly downloaded from Dräger 7510 devices.

The desired activity level for breath tests conducted by Police is set at 3,000,000 tests annually (approximately 750,000 tests per quarter). In Q2, Police achieved 757,044 passive breath tests and breath screening tests. This was up from the 560,579 tests conducted in Q1.

Additionally, over the rolling 12 months, Police has conducted over 2.3 million tests nationally.

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Distractions

Under the RSPP, mobile phone offence detection is monitored for operational purposes only with a desired "increasing trend" of enforcement. There were 13,784 offences detected in Q2, an increase of almost 41% on the same period in the previous year, and a near 13% increase on the previous quarter.

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Restraints

Police continues to identify and discourage restraint offences through the application of general and specific deterrence. Staff use spot-and-stop activities for seatbelt offences as well as planned operations including checking for appropriate use of child restraints.

The number of restraint offences in Q2 was 14,023 - up from the previous quarter result of 10,301. While the desired activity level is 15,000, this quarterly result was the highest since the end of 2020.

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