



Police Federation
of Australia
The National Voice of Policing

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Stop 'sickening' road toll with national licensing and training standards for young drivers

Australia needs a national approach to reduce the 'sickening number of young drivers killed each year on our roads', by introducing national standards for licensing and training, according to the Police Federation of Australia's latest policy document 'Keeping Australia Safer'.

593 Australian's have died on the roads to the end of May 2010, which is an increase of 9.2 per cent on the same period in 2009, the Federal Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government data shows.

In May alone 133 people died on our nation's roads.

CEO of the Police Federation of Australia, Mark Burgess says that what we are doing on a state-by-state basis is not enough to combat the overwhelming increases in our nation's road toll because the lessons learned in some states are not being shared.

"Every community in Australia would like to see the reduction in our road toll, and every police officer is sickened by cleaning up the carnage.

"And let's be clear, the different approaches being taken around the country, on the whole are not working.

"The current situation of some states using effective measures and other states using less effective measures to lower the toll must come to an end and we must move toward a national approach.

"We know some what measures work, and they're based on the carrot and the stick.

"We need strong and consistent restrictions on vehicle's engine power, their speed limits, the number of passengers they can carry and **zero blood alcohol limits** for L-and P-plate drivers, across the country.

"We need all new drivers to receive a nationally recognised minimum number of logged training hours with a qualified instructor.

"We need standard and nationally accepted penalties for L and P plate drivers, including speed and alcohol limiters.

"And for a carrot, we must provide incentives including relaxing restrictions for young drivers who undertake advanced driver training.

"We do not want to restrict young drivers; we simply want to keep them alive.

"All of these measures work to keep young drivers alive, and therefore we call on the Federal Government to come to the table with the states and seek a resolution on matters of such common sense.

For more information please call Adrian Dodd on 0401726476