

Hon Rachel Nolan MP Member for Ipswich

Our ref: MC42068



Minister for Transport

0 2 JUL 2009

Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street Brisbane Qld 4000

Dear Mr Laurie Neil

I refer to a petition lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Peter Wellington MP, Member for Nicklin on 21 May 2009 regarding horse riders and motor vehicles sharing the same roads.

I agree that it is important for motorists to be conscious of sharing the road with other road users and of the road rules that regulate traffic. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (the department) actively promotes sharing the road, the road rules and safe driving behaviour in a number of ways, including road safety advertising campaigns. Other methods are also used such as:

- the Your Keys to Driving in Queensland publication;
- the department's <u>www.transport.qld.gov.au</u> website;
- topical brochures; and
- a glove box reference guide containing road rules and safe driving information.

As you may be aware, the *Queensland Road Rules* permit horse riders to ride on roads in those areas where it is not practicable to ride on a road-related area (such as the shoulder of the road). Drivers of motor vehicles must give way when the person in charge of a horse indicates it is restive. It is an offence under the *Queensland Road Rules* for drivers not to give way in this situation. The Queensland Police Service is responsible for enforcing the *Queensland Road Rules*.

At this time, there are no plans to commit funds to an advertising campaign aimed specifically at road rules relating to the riding of horses. Given the high cost associated with advertising, my department targets its road safety campaigns at specific major contributing factors to the road toll such as speeding, drink driving, driving tired and not wearing a seatbelt.

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Yours sincerely

RACHEL NOLAN MP Minister for Transport