



Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: PET52791
Your ref: A1255285

16 April 2024

1 William Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Email transportandmainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to petition 3996-23, lodged with the Legislative Assembly by Mr Michael Crandon MP, Member for Coomera on 19 March 2024 about protective clothing for motorcyclists and their passengers.

I thank the petitioners for raising their concerns about the disproportionate number of motorcycle riders dying or being seriously injured as a result of road trauma and the importance of protective motorcycle clothing.

The Queensland Government does not mandate requirements for protective motorcycle clothing, other than an approved helmet, taking into consideration the following issues.

- There is no Australian Standard for the safety performance of motorcycle clothing, making it difficult to enforce the usage of products of which safety performance is unknown.
- Several considerations are required to be made by motorcyclists when choosing motorcycle clothing, including:
 - comfort and breathability, particularly in hot or wet climates
 - availability of product in required size, style, and gender applications, particularly in smaller regional centres
 - correct fitment which can be limited, particularly for female motorcyclists.

As an alternative to a mandate, the Queensland Government promotes the wearing of protective motorcycle clothing via:

- the StreetSmarts website and social media channels, which includes campaign material and links to MotoCAP
- the TMR website, including the *Queensland Motorcycle Riders' Guide*
- the Ride to Zero Community Road Safety Grants, and
- Motorcycle rider training conducted through the Q-Ride licencing system.

The Queensland Government supports and contributes to funding of the MotoCAP program. MotoCAP tests and rates critical aspects of motorcycle protective clothing for burst and abrasion resistance, and the performance of impact protectors, helping motorcyclists to make informed gear choices.

Under the *Queensland Road Safety Action Plan 2022–24*, the Queensland Government has committed to delivering the 'Ride to Zero' program which supports a community-led approach to improving rider safety. Ride to Zero builds upon the outcomes of previous engagement undertaken and will develop initiatives such as working with riding organisations to co-design mentoring programs and online content to improve rider safety, including choosing to wear protective motorcycle clothing.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bart Mellish', with a stylized flourish at the end.

BART MELLISH MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services