

Fines and Traffic Law Working Group Report to NLA – November 2016

The working group met on 16 November 2016. Key issues discussed included:

Access to Birth Certificates

Births, Deaths and Marriages provided information about initiatives they are currently considering to increase the availability of free birth certificates to identified disadvantaged or vulnerable groups in particular areas of the State. This issue of storage of Birth Certificates in particular communities where there appears to be repeated requests for new Birth Certificates was discussed. This will be discussed further with the Executive Director of Courts and Tribunal Services. The [NSW Trustee and Guardian Will Safe service](#) was discussed as a possible option to explore further with the NLA Plenary.

NSW Bicycle Laws and Fines

The Working Group will be sourcing data from the Office of State Revenue (OSR) regarding the number, amount and payment of Bicycle Fines issued to young people since the new fines were introduced. The Working Group will consider this data at its next meeting with a view to preparing another letter to the Minister regarding the impact of bicycle fines on young people.

Licence Disqualification Reforms

The Licence Disqualification Reforms Implementation Working Group has members from Transport NSW, Roads and Maritime Services, Department of Justice (Offender Strategy, Office for Police, Courts and Tribunal Services, Corrective Services NSW, Information and Technology Services), Chief Magistrate's Office, NSW Police Force, Legal Aid NSW and the Judicial Commission of NSW. It is chaired by the Deputy Secretary, Justice Strategy and Policy, Department of Justice and is working towards the reforms being implemented by 1 September 2017.

Fines and WDO Update

The revised WDO guidelines have had some additional revisions incorporated by the Governance Group. It is planned that these will be signed off by the Attorney General for implementation from February 2017.

The OSR Youth Engagement Strategy was tabled for feedback as currently being reviewed.

OSR reported that they will be convening a new Social Justice Working Group in 2017 involving all fines issuing authorities to consider a range of issues.

The next meeting of the Fines and Traffic Law Working Group is 15 February 2017.

Nadine Miles

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Chair, NLA Fines and Traffic Law Working Group – November 2016