

Saturday 23 October 2010

## **NEW BODY TO ADDRESS MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AS MOTORCYCLE AWARENESS WEEK GETS UNDERWAY**

Minister for Roads David Borger said a new Ministerial Advisory Council would address the safety issues faced by NSW motorcyclists.

The announcement coincides with today's start of Motorcycle Awareness Week.

Mr Borger said the NSW Government is committed to improving rider safety through public education and safety initiatives.

"We want to promote the safety of motorcyclists by educating drivers and riders of best practice on the road and reminding them of road rules and regulations," he said.

"And as part of my commitment to motorcyclist safety, I will be opening the inaugural Motorcycle Ministerial Advisory Council meeting on November 15.

"The Council will include key industry representatives and the Government acknowledges the role of the Chairman of the Motorcycle Council of NSW Rob Colligan, pursuing the need to establish such a body," he said.

Mr Borger said the Ministerial Advisory Council has been set up as part of the NSW Government's five-year Road Toll Response Package announced in March 2010, to educate road users on motorcyclist safety.

"Ultimately, it is the responsibility of motorcyclists and other road users to ensure the safety of riders," he said.

Last year 69 motorcyclists were killed in fatal crashes in NSW - representing 15 per cent of all fatalities in 2009.

"These statistics are alarming but it reminds us that all road users need to take more care. These lives are cut short; and mothers, fathers, sons and daughters are left to pick up the pieces," Mr Borger said.

"Motorcycle Awareness Week reminds road users to be more aware of motorcyclists, and to always check blind spots at intersections when changing lanes.



# MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon David Borger MP

Minister for Roads

Minister for Western Sydney

"Motorists involved in motorcycle casualty crashes often report that they 'looked for, but did not see' the motorcycle," he said.

Mr Borger said motorcyclists are encouraged to look out for themselves by using appropriate lane positioning and wearing bright, protective clothing.

"As the weather starts to warm up we see an increase in recreational riders," he said.

"Riders should wear protective clothing, preferably that is clearly visible in all weather conditions. Wearing thin summer clothing means the rider risks serious injury if he or she is involved in a crash."

Motorcycle Awareness Week runs from Saturday 23 October to 31 October and is organized by the Motorcycle Council of NSW.

For more information on the events for Motorcycle Awareness Week in local areas visit: [www.mccofnsw.org.au](http://www.mccofnsw.org.au)

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