Personal choice and community impacts Submission 15

To Whom It May Concern

I would like to express my opinion about scaling back the law around bicycle helmet laws.

After living in the UK for 12 years I find it very strange to come to Australia and be forced to wear a bicycle helmet when there is much more traffic on the roads over there than there is here. During that time I also spent time cycling around Europe without a helmet as well with no problems.

My understanding that that Australia and New Zealand are the only 2 countries in the world where these laws exist and since they came into existence the number of cyclists in Australia went down. I think if cycling is encouraged more you will have more cyclist, better education and better infrastructure.

I think here in Adelaide it is especially important, as we host a big cycling race. We have many people come from around the world to this event and many tourists find it a joke that we are so backward in our attitude towards cyclist and yet hold this major event. Imagine how much bigger and better it could be without such Draconian laws.

I do hope you take this matter seriously and lift these laws and allow cyclists the freedom to choose.

Kind regards

Lyndall Kay