

Minister for Finance
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Local Government and Planning
Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing
Leader of the House



Hon Mr Darren Chester MP
Committee Chair
Joint Select Committee on Road Safety
Parliament of Australia
By email: road.safety.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Chester

Thank you for your letter of 2 February 2022 requesting information on the use of average speed cameras in Tasmania.

Tasmania's automated speed enforcement program currently consists of 10 fixed speed cameras located predominantly on high-speed, high-volume roads across the state. There are currently no average (point-to-point) speed cameras in Tasmania.

In December 2019, I released the *Towards Zero Action Plan 2020-2024* (Action Plan), which outlines the Tasmanian Government's approach to reducing road trauma. Under the Action Plan, the Tasmanian Government committed to investigating potential enhancements to its automated speed enforcement program.

As part of this investigation the Department of State Growth (State Growth) engaged the Centre for Automotive Safety Research (CASR) to assist in identify the type, mix and scale of technologies for priority implementation in Tasmania. CASR undertook a historical crash data analysis and modelling, performed a literature review, and conducted in-depth interviews with transport and police agencies in other jurisdictions.

In its 2020 final report, CASR advised that the reintroduction of mobile speed cameras would provide the greatest road safety benefit to Tasmania, with an expected fatal and serious injury reduction of between five and 20 per cent (depending on the scale of the program).

Compared to other technologies, mobile speed cameras were recommended for priority implementation due to their greater coverage of the road network and crash population. CASR also recommended future consideration of average speed cameras on sections of rural highways with a high crash risk.

Based on CASR's advice, the Tasmanian Government is expecting to implement a new mobile speed camera program in the first half of 2022. This program will have the capacity to increase the level of enforcement over time and implement emerging technologies such as mobile average speed, illegal mobile phone usage and seatbelt non-compliance enforcement.

State Growth has undertaken preliminary analysis to identify potential mobile average speed enforcement locations, with a focus on high-risk rural roads with few opportunities for slowing down

(e.g., tight corners, roundabouts, signalised intersections, etc.) and limited entry/exit points. The results of this analysis have not yet been finalised.

Thank you again for your correspondence and interest in Tasmania's automated speed enforcement program. I hope this information is of assistance and I look forward to the Committee's findings on road safety in Australia.

Yours sincerely

Michael Ferguson MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport