

Joint Select Committee on Road Safety

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Inquiry into Road Safety – Public hearing 14 October 2021

National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)

Committee Question Number: RSQN035

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CHAIR: Have there been any successful programs or approaches on how we can incentivise people to get themselves into safer vehicles, if possible, to help reduce our cost burden, or is it something that just hasn't really been addressed at this point?

Dr Casey: I would need to take that on notice, and we'll do a check on that. But most probably it is, as a result of these being very low-socioeconomic communities. It is difficult in a lot of cases for them to buy safe vehicles. But that would go hand in hand with improved communications campaigns about safe vehicles and wearing seatbelts. There are a whole lot of issues around creating awareness about things like baby seats. That needs to happen, and it needs to happen over a long period of time. We also need to start some of the messaging around this in primary schools.

Answer

After consulting with our Affiliates, NACCHO has been unable to find evidence of any successful programs or approaches to incentivise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people into safer vehicles.

Committee Question Number: RSQN036

Proof Hansard Page: p. 5 (14 October 2021)

Mr THISTLETHWAITE: You've got a broad health remit. Do you know if there are any bodies that are specifically working on First Nations road safety that have a specific remit to look at the sorts of issues that have been raised in your submission?

Dr Casey: No, I'm sorry, I don't. Certainly, there are not ones dealing with some of the areas that we are dealing with, but we can check that and come back to you on whether there are or not.

Mr THISTLETHWAITE: Thank you. That's been most helpful.

Answer

NACCHO has been unable to identify any Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations/bodies that have a specific remit for road safety. NACCHO is happy to work with the Government to address and advance the issues raised in our submission and during the inquiry.