



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Dr Marisa Paterson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Redirected to:

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 17]

In relation to: Dangerous driving statistic

Hearing Date: 2 August 2024

QTON lodgement date: 5 August 2024

Answer Due Date: 8 August 2024

DR PATERSON: And in terms of dangerous driving around our rural roads, Uriarra and also like in Hume and Mitchell, has there been sort of proactive policing around that issue of late?

Mr Bailey: Yes there certainly has. Look, we stood up a specialised traffic targeting sergeant position within our road policing area. So they are gathering intelligence. We rely obviously on the community, especially in those rural outlining areas. One of the issues we have, of course, is displacement. More the target and it is not uncommon to use lookouts, et cetera.

There has been some work done with our colleagues at TCCS in trying different road services which actually chew up the tyres of these people quite quickly. It does then, of course, displace that issue but we have had a good bit of success with targeting and I am happy, if you like, to provide you with some statistics either now or—

THE CHAIR: Perhaps on notice. We need to move on.

Mr Mick Gentleman MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The targeting of road users in and around Uriarra Village is ongoing as part of rural roads traffic enforcement activities. Operationally these activities are generally directed by Road Policing Sergeants on any given shift.

ACT Policing are looking at intelligence led methods to identify vehicles and drivers heading to these rural and remote areas so they can be more accurately targeted for enforcement.

In 2020, TCCS conducted a trial of a coarse surface treatment at the Uriarra Road/Tidbinbilla Road and the Uriarra Road/Point Hut Road intersections. The surface treatment was intended to damage the tyres of vehicles doing burnouts more rapidly and make these sites less attractive to hoon behaviour.

The trial of this coarse surface treatment has only been partially successful with burnout behaviours at these sites continuing. The treatment has also displaced illegal burnout activity to other locations.

The high speed/low traffic volume nature of these rural roads restricts the use of engineering features that might otherwise be considered within more built-up locations. Median islands, bollards, rocks or coppers logs which are close enough to the travel path to adequately restrict burnouts all present an unacceptable risk to the safety of users of Uriarra Road.

Additionally, the installation of permanent CCTV has been considered previously and it is understood that a lack of mobile phone coverage and the high risk of vandalism makes this option not feasible.

Operation TORIC has been a success and is now an ongoing capability with ACT Policing. Between 1 August 2022 and 30 June 2024, 492 apprehensions have been made by ACT Policing, leading to 1,444 charges. Of those apprehended:

- 198 of the alleged offenders were on bail;
- 72 were subject to good behaviour orders;
- 12 were on intensive corrections orders;
- 32 were on parole; and,
- 76 were subject to arrest warrants.

FAIL TO STOP OFFENCES IN THE ACT					
2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Percentage Change between 2022-23 and 2023-24
962	882	760	510	457	-10%

TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENT NOTICES ISSUED BY ACT POLICING FOR HOON LIKE OFFENCES WITHIN ACT 2019-20 TO 2023-24					
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Aggravated improper use of motor vehicle	0	2	1	4	1
Approach pedestrian crossing too quickly to stop safely	0	0	0	0	0
Drive behind other vehicle too closely to stop safely	40	37	23	27	33
Drive unsafely maintained vehicle	31	34	23	55	50

Drive without proper control of vehicle	40	22	23	14	18
Improper use of motor vehicle	67	97	43	52	57
Learner ride motorbike of prohibited power to weight ratio	5	1	0	2	0
Negligent driving	83	74	53	45	49
Non-school zone exceed speed limit by > 45 km/h	99	99	63	65	60
Organise/promote/take part in race with another vehicle	4	12	0	4	1
Overtake vehicle when unsafe	8	7	3	4	3
School zone exceed speed limit by > 45 km/h	0	0	3	0	0
Start/drive vehicle causing unnecessary noise/smoke	5	3	3	2	7

CHARGES FOR HOON LIKE OFFENCES WITHIN ACT 2019-20 TO 2023-24					
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Aggravated furious/reckless/dangerous driving	88	86	105	111	84
Control vehicle - drive without proper control	5	2	2	3	2
Culpable driving causing grievous bodily harm	1	6	5	2	3
Drive behind other vehicle too close to stop safely	8	1	2	3	1
Drive knowing other may be menaced	3	2	0	1	2
Drive with intent to menace	5	3	1	3	1
Furious/reckless/dangerous driving	36	29	27	66	39
Improper use of motor vehicle (burnout etc.) **	0	19	23	27	20
Negligent driving - occasioning death or grievous bodily harm	3	8	12	5	0
Negligent driving - other than causing actual bodily harm /death/injury	32	34	31	19	0
Organise/promote/take part in race - vehicle	6	0	1	2	0

Perform burnout in vehicle	0	2	0	0	0
Unnecessary noise/smoke - start/drive vehicle to cause	1	0	0	0	0

*** Increase likely due to TIN change – burn out behaviour now included in 'improper use of motor vehicle'*

ACT Policing media releases regarding dangerous driving

[www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/18-year-old-p-plater-caught-travelling-over-160kmh.](http://www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/18-year-old-p-plater-caught-travelling-over-160kmh)

[www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/police-target-hoon-driving-act-rural-areas.](http://www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/police-target-hoon-driving-act-rural-areas)

[www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/man-caught-speeding-double-posted-limit-anzac-day.](http://www.policenews.act.gov.au/news/media-releases/man-caught-speeding-double-posted-limit-anzac-day)

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: *9/6/2024*

By the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Mr Mick Gentleman MLA