

Inquest into the death of Jennifer Boon

Jennifer Boon died shortly after midnight on 12 July 2009 from multiple injuries, including significant head injuries, sustained after she was accidentally hit by a chartered bus she had alighted from.

Coroner Stephanie Tonkin delivered her findings of inquest on 10 October 2012.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible agency named in the response.

Recommendation 3

I recommend that the Department of Transport and Main Roads give consideration to the need for an appropriate public education campaign, designed to educate the public on the dangers of large passenger vehicles, and the need to act in a safe and prudent manner (including being conscious of the risk of being distracted by the use of a mobile phone) when in close proximity to such vehicles, and to give consideration to any visibility issues that might be presented to both the driver in seeing any passengers and the passengers in seeing around the vehicle. It is recommended that such an education campaign is to be designed and implemented at the discretion of the department, after due and appropriate consideration to any available data on such safety issues.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Department of Transport and Main Roads.

On 22 September 2015, the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade and the Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and Minister for Energy and Water Supply responded:

A new campaign regarding all road users sharing the road safely together was rolled out in late 2014. The campaign's key messages included education on the key blind spots of vehicles - including cars and trucks. Special mention was made of pedestrians being aware of blind spots of large passenger vehicles as part of this campaign, particularly in social media elements. Distraction of pedestrians from sources such as music and mobile phones was also covered as part of this campaign.

In addition to this the Queensland Government hosted the Safer Roads, Safer Queensland Forum on 10 April 2015. This forum was attended by experts from research institutions, road user groups, new car assessments, engineering and infrastructure groups, motoring and insurance organisations, local government, legal firms, the rail industry, driver trainers, unions and state government policy and law enforcement agencies. The outcomes from this forum informed the development of the new Safer Roads, Safer Queensland Road Safety Strategy 2015/21 and Action Plan 2015/17. A key priority area for action over the next two years focuses on improving safety for vulnerable road users, including pedestrians.