



Media Release 26/07/2015 – 2 pages

Subject – Proposed Changes to Motorcycle Licensing

Today the MRAQ participated in a media event in conjunction with the Queensland Minister for Main Roads to announce the release tomorrow of a discussion paper on proposals for changes to the motorcycle licensing process. This discussion paper is intended to seek input from any interested party as to how the licensing process could be amended to better equip riders with skills and knowledge as their progress through the process and as such does not yet have a preferred model.

At the event the Minister used one particular possible scenario to demonstrate one option being considered. This particular option is not what the MRAQ currently believes to be the best one.

The MRAQ fully supports the inclusion of a pre-learner component to the current model which will see Queensland align with other states. This inclusion makes full sense and can be seen as ensuring that learners have the necessary skills to enable them to progress their abilities with on road practice. We don't however currently agree with other sections of the example model used during the media event.

The current MRAQ preferred model is only to add the pre-learner component by moving part of the current RE licensing course engagement to become the pre-learner component and leave all other current parts unchanged.

Model

Pre-learner ½ day course (component part of current 2 day RE licensing) > Granted learners license > Practice Skills (period to be determined) > Attend RE licensing component 1 ½ days (currently 2 days) > Granted RE license > Hold RE for minimum 12 months (As current) > Attend R licensing reengagement (As current) > Granted R license.

The model as indicated achieves the addition of the pre-learner component without any additional cost for extra course time for the participant but adds one more engagement point to attempt to ensure the ability of the rider as well as accessing and possibly modifying any errant problems with the riders skill set or attitude.

The purpose of the Discussion Paper is to seek all possible alternative view points and then suggest the best model to ensure maximum riders skills from the process without being so cumbersome as to put riders of from gaining their license and to this end the MRAQ wishes to encourage all interested parties to partake of the opportunity and put forward their views.

Release compiled by Chris Mearns MRAQ President