



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Transport

Integrated Transport Planning

Your ref:

Our ref: A11525449

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Hon Aaron Stonehouse MLC
Chairman
Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Chairman

Following review of the Hansard transcript provided emailed on 1 March 2018, I would like to address the following incorrect factual information I communicated at the Department of Transport hearing for the Select Committee on Personal Choice and Community Safety.

As outlined on page 11 of the transcript, Hon. Dr Sally Talbot asked me the following question:

'Do you know whether that figure has changed over the years so that people's objections are not being raised now as much as they might have been, say, 10 years ago?'

I answered with the response: *'I am not aware of that'.*

I would like to correct the public record since I can confirm I was aware that there has been a change in people's objections to helmet laws since they were first introduced.

I am aware when mandatory helmet laws were first introduced in Western Australia in 1992, there were some objections to the legislation. However, community sentiment has since changed and there is now strong community support in favour of these laws. This has been reinforced through published evidence in peer-reviewed journals and studies that consistently indicate that Australian mandatory helmet laws have significantly reduced cyclist fatalities and injuries.

I would also like to correct on page 12 of the transcript I referred to '144 local governments in Western Australia'. This is incorrect since there are 139 local governments in Western Australia.

Another minor mistake occurs on page 10 of the transcript where I referred to The Department of Transport as being within the *cycling* portfolio. This is incorrect. The Department of Transport is the lead agency within the *transport* portfolio and has oversight across managing and guiding the provision of cycling infrastructure across the State.

Yours sincerely

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