

PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA Economy and Infrastructure Standing Committee – Legislative Assembly

**MEDIA RELEASE** 

## Have your say on road users' behaviour

Victorians can have their say on road users' behaviour as part of a new parliamentary inquiry.

The Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee is welcoming public submissions for its investigation into the impact of road safety behaviours on vulnerable road users.

The inquiry will specifically look at how road users' behaviour changed during and after the COVID-19 pandemic and how this affected the safety of people most at risk on the road.

"Last year, 241 Victorians lost their lives on the road, and thousands more were injured," said Committee Chair Alison Marchant.

"We also know many more pedestrians and motorcyclists died on the road last year compared with the previous year," she added.

Vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcycle riders, are less protected in the event of a road crash. The inquiry will consider the impact of road users' behaviour on these groups as well as on the safety of children, older people and people using mobility devices.

"Studies suggest drivers were more distracted during lockdowns and were more likely to take risks on the road such as speeding," Ms Marchant said.

"We want to hear from road users about their experiences on the road during and after COVID, and their views on how to improve road safety behaviours.

"We're also keen to hear from road safety experts and peak bodies representing road users on what they think is shaping people's behaviour on the road, and how this information can be used to improve safety."

Public submissions to the inquiry are open until 19 May 2023. For more information on the inquiry, including how to make a submission, go to the Committee's <u>website</u>.

The Committee plans to hold public hearings later this year and will report to Parliament in March 2024.

Issued: 28 March 2023