



4 November 2010

Tougher Demerit System for New Drivers

Dr Mike Nahan, the Member for Riverton welcomed the State Government's implementation of a new demerit point system for learner and P-plate drivers that will come into force on 1 December 2010.

"The high number of novice drivers involved in road crashes has been the catalyst for the new system," said Dr Nahan.

"The new stricter license controls have the support of the RACWA and the Road Safety Council and should assist in saving lives and preventing injuries on our roads."

Dr Nahan said it is hoped that the stricter rules, which will bring WA into line with other states, will make new drivers think about their driving habits.

"Comprehensive research has shown that people who accrue demerit points as novice drivers are 66 per cent more likely to be involved in a crash. It is hoped that if new drivers focus on the road rules now, they will retain those safer driving practices throughout their driving life, helping to make our roads that much safer," said Dr Nahan.

"From 1 December 2010, new drivers will only be able to have three demerit points recorded against them in their first year of driving and this includes the period during their Learner's Permit."

"If they gain four or more demerit points, their driver's license will be cancelled and they will face a three month wait to obtain another one."

"People who had had their license for more than a year but less than two years will only be able to lose seven demerit points during that period before they face losing their licence and having to wait three months to apply for a new one."

"This new demerit point program is designed to encourage new drivers to stick to the road rules and to stay safe."

For more information visit <http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/novice> or phone 1300 668 423. A new instant online demerit point check will be available from this website from 1 December 2010.

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