

Centre for Road Safety News

November 2015

Reminding everyone to 'Be Bus Aware'

NSW's first ever [Bus Safety Week](#), dedicated to improving safety around buses, was held from Sunday 1 November to Saturday 7 November 2015.

NSW has the largest metropolitan bus fleet in Australia, and from 2003 to 2013 across the Sydney, Newcastle and Wollongong areas alone, there were more than 4000 recorded crashes involving a heavy bus, where 58 people were killed and a further 2727 people were injured. Of these 58 fatalities, almost half were pedestrians, followed by drivers of other vehicles.

Crashes involving buses often result in more severe outcomes to other road users due to their size and mass, and because they take longer to slow down than other smaller vehicles on the road.

So that's why we created Bus Safety Week – to raise awareness among all road users about how they can 'Be Bus Aware'.

Two videos were released during the Week - the first [video](#) is a series of animations to clearly show right and wrong behaviours when travelling on and around buses, whether you're a pedestrian, driver, cyclist or passenger.

The second [video](#) is for school students in years five and six and is available from [safetytown.com.au](#). It includes safety messages that complement NSW school road safety curriculum – which is important when you consider that every day in NSW, more than 600,000 school children travel all or part of their journey to school by bus.

These materials have been developed in consultation with partners from the bus industry, school education sector, NSW Police, RMS and others. Please support the campaign by spreading the word about the Week and promoting the videos through your communication channels.



Speed zone data now more user friendly

A new online system will make it easier for RMS to process speed zone suggestions from the public and carry out reviews across NSW.

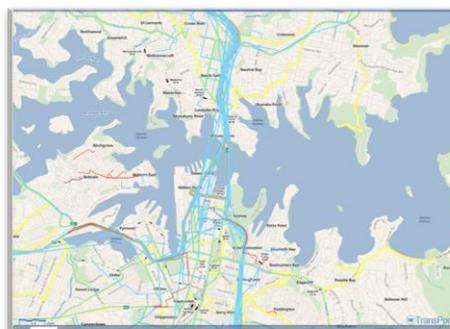
The SpeedLink2 project is an integrated workflow system for all NSW speed zone, regulatory speed zone and speed zone management data.

Users are now able to view multiple suggestions spatially and approve reviews online. Another benefit is that suggestions will now be automatically allocated to the relevant RMS region, resulting in a more efficient process.

Over the coming months, we will be implementing improved functionality for reviewing and approving changes to speed signs and speed zones on an RMS region by region basis.

We have also launched a SpeedLink2 speed camera suggestion function to manage speed camera nominations from the public, and the [Safer Roads website](#) has been updated with all previously submitted speed camera nominations.

The Centre's Information team has been in touch with users to provide links to the system and online training. We hope you enjoy using the new system and we will keep you updated with new functions.



Above: An example of the SpeedLink interface.

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Find out who the Wanderers slow down for

Transport for NSW has launched a new partnership with the Western Sydney Wanderers Football Club to help tackle the biggest killer on our roads – speed.

The partnership was launched with a [video](#) which features the Wanderers encouraging the community to slow down. It was played for the first time to fans at the 1 November home game at Pirtek Stadium, and the partnership will also include speed-related signage at games and social media coverage.

Every year in NSW, 4000 people are killed or injured because of speeding, which underlines the importance of our road safety message, [Don't Rush](#).

It is hoped that this partnership, combined with our existing education campaigns and enforcement through NSW Police and cameras will help reduce death and injury as a result of speeding.

You can get behind the campaign by sharing the new video on your website and social media channels, and keep an eye out for speed awareness messaging at the Wanderers' games throughout the year.



Above: A/Executive Director, CRS Bernard Carlon, Minister for Roads Duncan Gray and Western Sydney Wanderers CEO John Tsatsimas with Wanderers players at the partnership launch.

New ad asks 'Are you driving blind?'

An extension of the 'Get Your Hand Off It' mobile phone campaign has been launched with a new [TV ad](#), and the mobile phone section on the road safety website has been updated to clearly communicate what you can and can't do with your mobile phone in a vehicle.

The ad highlights how using your phone while you're driving can have the same effect as driving blind.

The page above can be used for all web channels and social media to support conversations you are having with community members about mobile phones and driving.

Serious injury data now available

New [interactive crash statistics](#) are now available on serious injuries, so local councils can better research and analyse road trauma.

The interactive reports are the result of a data linkage project by the Centre that matched NSW Police data with hospital and emergency department records from NSW Health. This new data reveals the extent and nature of injuries experienced in road crashes and will allow us to be more targeted when it comes to implementing and evaluating our road safety initiatives.



Above: The new 'Get Your Hand Off It' campaign asks 'Are you driving blind?'

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Diary dates:

1 – 7 November: Bus Safety Week.

5 – 7 November: Operation Drink Drive 2 will be running from the 5 – 7 November inclusive to target drive driving.

26 – 28 November: Operation Mega Drive, a large scale random drug test and random breath test operation, will be running in the Tweed/Byron & Richmond local area commands.