

Minister for Housing and Planning  
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Minister for Local Government

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31 OCT 2025

Ms Tabatha Badger MP  
Parliament House

C/- Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Badger

In Parliament on 24 September 2025, you asked the following question of me as Minister for Infrastructure:

*Last year there was an independent traffic assessment completed on Sticky Beaks Corner in Longford. When will that independent traffic assessment be made public?*

*If it won't be made public, will you at least release the recommendations to the community so they can know what's happening?*

In response to your question, the independent safety audit report was undertaken by Safe Systems Solutions and completed in September 2024.

The audit found the planter boxes were not considered a significant hazard and any impacts to them would be of low severity due to the local road environment.

On balance, the assessment indicated in terms of protecting pedestrians using the footpath space, providing the concrete planter boxes outside the Sticky Beaks Café is better than providing nothing at all.

There were five recommendations from the audit (two for the Department of State Growth and the other three for Northern Midlands Council).

The two items for DSG were:

- Reducing the speed limit to 40 km/h through the Longford township, OR, installing an advance warning sign prior to the curve in Wellington Street
- Duplicating the Give Way sign on the William Street approach to Wellington Street.

The three items for the Council were:

- Install a Give Way Ahead sign on the southbound Wellington Street approach
- Remove one parking space on Wellington Street to improve visibility to pedestrians

- In relation to the planter boxes:
  - shift them back from the kerb to an offset of at least 1 m to improve clearance to traffic and,
  - consider lowering their height by around 300 mm to ensure sight lines over them were always clear and,
  - maintain the vegetation within the planter boxes on a regular basis, OR remove the vegetation and replace them with artificial vegetation.

The report was provided to the Council on 24 September 2024 for response to the recommendations relevant to their areas of road management responsibility. The Council replied to the department with their comments on each finding.

The finalised report and recommendations document was confirmed with NMC on 18 December 2024, and they were free to disseminate the report and responses to its findings as it sees fit.

The Department agreed to the minor sign adjustments, and these were raised with the Government's maintenance contractor to arrange installation.

The Department's independent expert advice is it does not support lowering the speed limit through Longford to 40 km/h. 40 km/h is typically only appropriate where there are high levels of pedestrian activity throughout the day and particularly a lot of pedestrians crossing the road which is not the case for this area.

The Council decided not to move or lower the planter boxes due to this being impractical and, also did not agree to removing the parking space. The Council advised the Give Way Ahead sign was installed and it would ensure the vegetation in the planter boxes is maintained.

The Department has advised it will provide a summary of the key findings and actions of the report to you, separately to this response.

Yours sincerely



Hon Kerry Vincent MLC  
**Minister for Infrastructure and Transport**