

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [RST](#)  
**Subject:** Road Safety Inquiry  
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I would like to express my concern about the worrying numbers of road fatalities and serious injuries occurring on Tasmanian roads. I read The Examiner every day and am always alarmed at how often (usually young) people are in court on a whole list of often repeated charges of driving without a licence, over the alcohol limit, driving with drugs in their system, speeding, evading the police or worse, driving at them, causing serious accidents sometimes fatal and stealing cars and often burning them.

The penalties often seem so lenient with weeks held on remand being taken into account and being disqualified from driving for 6 - 12 months and fined a minimal amount. My concern is the repeat offenders, driving whilst disqualified should incur years of loss of licence not months, the same should go for driving with drug and alcohol in their blood. I think these people pose a significant risk to other road users especially when they cause a fatality or serious injury.

I have recently retired as a shift worker working weekend nights, I am so glad to not have to drive into Launceston at 10.30pm and endure kids hooning around the streets, tailgating and in vehicles that don't look very roadworthy anymore. On the West Tamar Highway I saw so many vehicles with only one functional headlight appearing out of the dark, at first I thought they were motorbikes till they got closer.

I accept the police can not be everywhere but the last time I got breathalysed on a routine police check was years ago in Exeter at 2.45pm on a week day and no I hadn't been drinking or taking drugs.

I am not advocating harsher sentencing and jail time as the prisons are already overflowing but repeat offenders should be penalised for the risks they are taking and loss of licence should be extended each time they re-offend not served concurrently with previous sentencing.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Brooks

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22/8/2021