

# MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 22 January 2018

## DOUBLE DEMERITS THIS AUSTRALIA DAY

With too many lives lost on NSW roads this year, Narrandera Shire Council is urging people to drive safely and take extra care on our roads this Australia Day holiday period.

Motorists are reminded that double demerits will apply for four days in NSW from **Thursday 25 January until midnight Sunday 28 January 2018** inclusive.

Council's Road Safety Officer, Kym Snow says, "All motorists should take care when travelling over this period as the roads will be busy. Don't risk losing your licence. Double demerits will be enforced for speeding, not wearing a seatbelt and or motorcycle helmet and illegal use of mobile phones."

"Speed was a contributing factor in 26.7% of all Narrandera crashes, with fatigue on the rise and contributing to 22.1% of all crashes in Narrandera in the last 5 years."

"No one plans to have a crash. Speeding increases your risk of a crash as does driver fatigue. Drive to the conditions and plan your journey, build in regular rest breaks and safely arrive at your destination without speeding or driving when tired," said Miss Snow.

Driver reviver sites will be operating throughout the region and NSW over the Australia Day holiday period, providing motorists the opportunity to take a break and have a free cuppa and a chat before getting back on the road.

Illegal mobile phone use while driving continues to be an issue with drivers. "The 'Can't Talk, Driving' report from the NRMA revealed that 21% of drivers have been involved in a near miss when driving because the other driver was using a mobile phone while behind the wheel. Anyone talking or texting illegally while driving is breaking the law and putting other people's lives at risk. Put your phone away, take responsibility and do the right thing when driving," said Miss Snow.

The NSW road toll isn't just a number. Its people. Let's all do what we can to push the number of deaths on our roads towards zero. #TowardsZero

For further information on double demerits or Towards Zero please visit the Centre for Road Safety [roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au](http://roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au) .

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Precis or Summary: Double demerits this Australia Day			
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