

Safer Journeys

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Associate Minister of Transport

Where we started in 2008

- Progress on reducing the road toll had stalled
- No major initiatives underway
- Public concern at punitive revenue gathering

Where we started in 2008

- Debate stuck on cellphone use in cars
- And what to do about boy racers...



Immediate action

- Cellphone ban in cars to reduce distractions
- Illegal Street Racing Act passed to crack down on dangerous driving
- Drugged-driving legislation
- But we needed a longer-term strategy...



Where is the problem?

- Recidivist and alcohol impaired drivers
- Young drivers
- Together, these groups cause half of all deaths.



Our solution: Safer Journeys

- “Safer Journeys” is National’s strategy to reduce road deaths over the next 10 years
- Works on all aspects of the roading system:
 - Road Users
 - Vehicles
 - Alcohol
 - Speed

Solution: New legislation

- Passed the Land Transport Amendment Bill on 5 May this year
- Most significant update to our safety legislation since the original Land Transport Act of 1998

What we've done

- Increased driving age from 15 to 16
- Zero alcohol limit for under-20s
- Doubled sentences for causing death
- Changed the law to allow police to collect crash data for drivers between 0.005 and 0.08 BAC

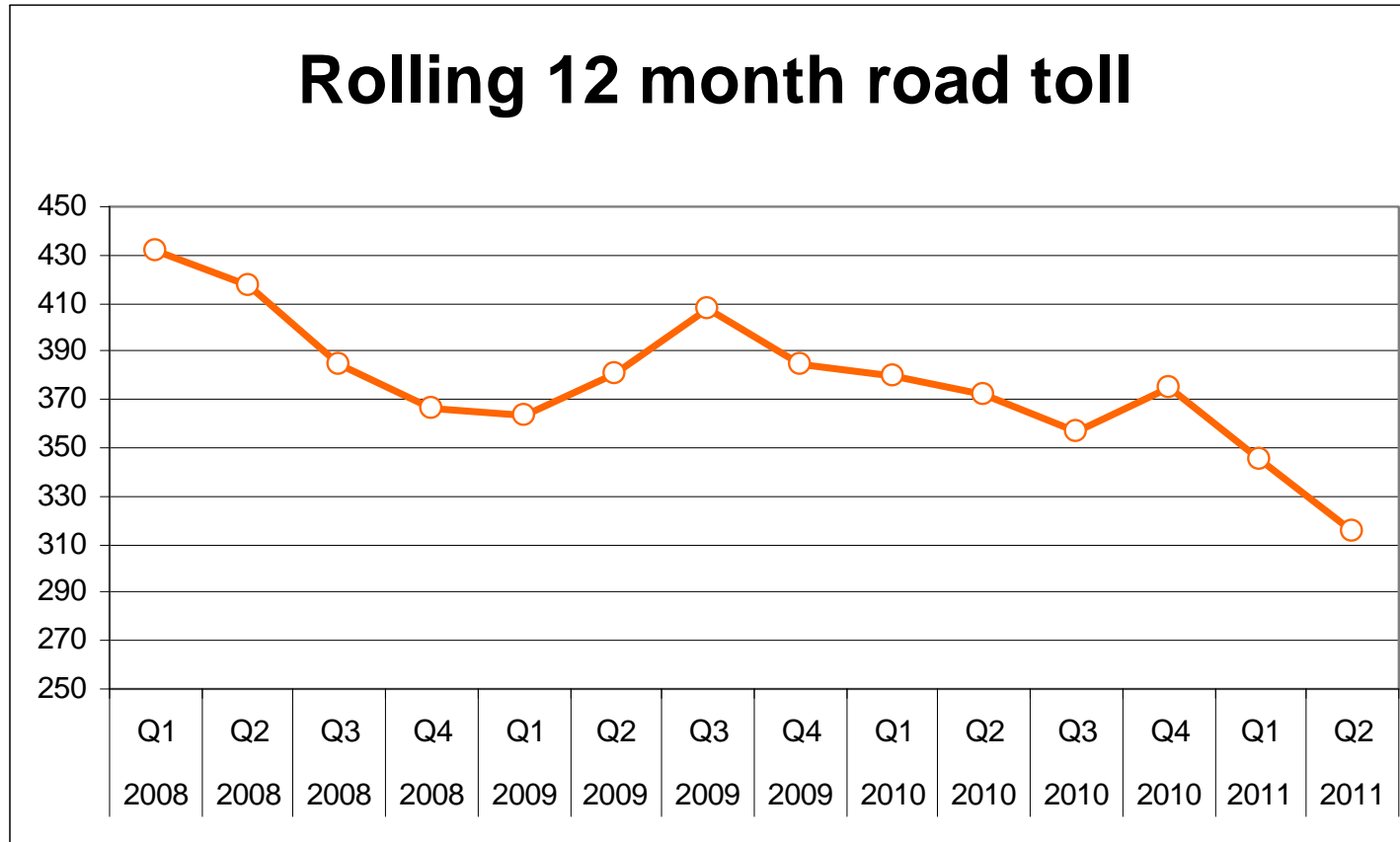
From 2012

- Restricted driving test harder
- Zero alcohol limit for recidivist drink drivers
- Alcohol interlocks for recidivist drink drivers

Road marking developments

- Rumble strips developed and trialled in mid-2000s
- Introduced on busy highways in 2008
- Trials underway on wide centreline layout.

Early results: Road toll declining



Improving the safety of roads

- Kiwi RAP developed to rate the safety of roads
- Provides a star rating for 10,000 km of highway
- Rating goes from 5* (the best) to 1* (the worst)



The next 10 years

- Government Policy Statement on Land Transport Funding 2012 has priorities of:
 - economic growth
 - productivity
 - value for money
 - road safety

Future investment

- \$36 billion for land transport over next 10 years. This includes:
- \$15 to \$20 billion on State highways
- \$6 to \$8 billion on local roads

Roads of National Significance

- Our largest highway construction programme ever - \$11 billion over 10 years:
 - Victoria Park
 - Western Wing Route
 - Puhoi to Wellsford
 - Waikato expressway
 - Tauranga Eastern Link Road
 - Wellington Airport to Levin
 - Christchurch motorways

Road Maintenance taskforce

- Includes representatives from industry, local government and NZTA
- Will work together to find new opportunities for efficiency
- Report back in April 2012

The next steps

- Tougher restricted license
- Strengthen motorcycle licensing rules
- Consulting on proposed changes to give way rules.
- Build safer highways

Conclusion

- A very busy three years – with more to do
- Road safety is the responsibility of *everyone*.

