



DrivingChange

NETWORK

Quarterly Network News, Updates & Information

Quick Updates

Like our page for updates
[Facebook](#)

Know someone keen to join?
 New members can
[sign up here](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Our annual conference this year will be held in Wellington Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd June 2022.

Join Our Workgroups

Government Advocacy & Comms.
 9.30am 3rd Thursday, Monthly

Education in Schools & Employability
 1.30pm 3rd Wednesday, Monthly

For Māori by Māori
 9am 1st Thursday, Monthly

Best Practise programmes & Training
 8.30am 2nd Wednesday, Monthly

Multicultural
 8.30am 4th Friday, Monthly

National Coordinator

Wendy Robertson
 p. 027 562-8972
 e. wendy@drivingchange.nz

Welcome to 2022

It seems like I have spent the past 12 months making plans, postponing plans and then changing everything to take it all online. Despite all this uncertainty, it seems that we have made some serious progress in past three months and I'm excited to share these wins with you all.

Navigating the ever changing COVID-19 situation, government regulations and guidelines is all that we can do. Together we will get through this and once we do, I think we are in for some exciting changes in the driver education and training space.

Steering Committee

The start of 2022 has seen a few changes to our Steering Committee and I would like to acknowledge the work of the following people on behalf of the Driving Change Network.

Noa Woolloff who has left his role at the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs to take on a position with WorkSafe (congratulations on the new role Noa).

Dallas Seymour of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu, who is stepping away for the next six months as he leads a large project at work.

Jenny Davies of Waikato Regional Council has had a change of direction and stepped down.

And finally Shirley Johnson of Youth Employability Aotearoa who is preparing to retire later this year has stepped down.

We already miss these amazing people and the skills and knowledge that they brought to our team. We are looking out for others who would like to be part of our Workgroups and Steering Committee. Details of how to get involved can be found later in this update.

Hopefully I will get to see you all again at our second annual conference in June. Until then, stay safe.

Wendy

DCN Workgroups

The Driving Change Network have a number of workgroups who get together on a monthly basis to discuss issues and problems that they may have relating to a particular area of the driving training and licensing space.

Examples of the types of issues we work together on are our **Multicultural Group** - who look at driver licensing issues affecting migrants and refugees, such as distance to sites able to do overseas licence conversions, access to interpreters and how COVID has affected students who require an interpreter to travel in the vehicle for tests with them.

Our **Best Practise Training** workgroup are currently working on two projects aimed to lift the standard of community driving programmes around the country while supporting programmes experiencing difficulty or just getting started in the space.

These groups meet monthly for no more than an hour. They both aim to provide support for our members and to improve road safety in New Zealand.

We need more people to get involved in these groups. A full list of these are included on the front page of this newsletter. There is no commitment to attend every meeting, just when you can.

If you would like to be added to the mailing or reminder list for any of these workgroups, no matter the level of your experience in this industry, we would love to hear from you.

Email wendy@drivingchange.nz



Driving Change Network Annual Hui



Save the date, our annual Driving Change Network Conference will be held once again in Wellington on **Wednesday 1st June & Thursday 2nd June 2022.**

This event is timed to be able to include updates and information from the 2022 Budget announcements regarding possible driver education funding that is available as a result of the recent GDLS and access to licensing reviews that have been undertaken.

Feedback from our 2021 event was very positive and we are aiming to ensure that this event is even better. We would appreciate any suggestions from our members as to personal development topics that you would like included in this years event.

Please forward your suggestions to wendy@drivingchange.nz



NZIDE Update

This year we have welcomed Peter Elder, current president of the New Zealand Institute of Driving Educators to our Steering Committee. Peter brings to our group his experience as a professional driving instructor and experiences as an educator both in private business and armed forces.

Peter shares the Driving Change Network's passion for road safety and continual improvement in driving education for all road users.

In light of this new working relationship - Peter and NZIDE would like to invite all Driving Change Network members and supporters to participate in their weekly Wednesday Evening Professional Development workshops.

Looking for a deep dive into skill specific content for driver education? Need a place to ask those driving questions? Have specific driver education experience to help others? Then this is the place. Over Wednesday nights in March 2022, Wayne will lead discussion on the topics listed below.

Topic: NZIDE Professional Development Workshops

Time: Wednesday nights starting time 7pm



Join Zoom Meeting

[NZIDE Workshop Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 857 0087 1738

Passcode: NZ1de21

Wednesday 9th of March at 7pm Steering.

Wednesday 16th of March at 7pm Move off and Stopping.

Wednesday 23rd of March at 7pm Gear Changing.

Wednesday 30th of March at 7pm Intersections.

Request for driver licensing to be classified an essential service

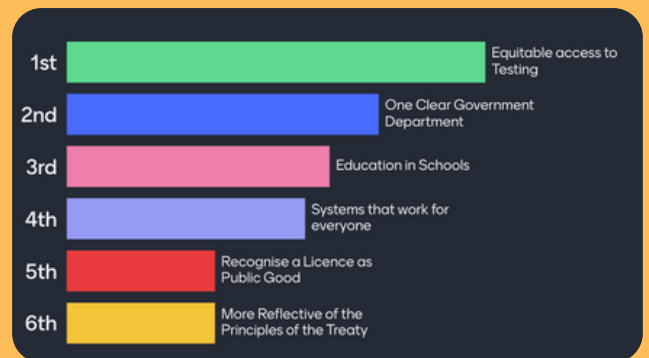


Many of you will have been affected by government mandates when the NZ COVID traffic light system came into play.

While driving educators being classified as close contact businesses and the requirement for learners to be fully vaccinated came as no surprise, the fact that many of our students would be prevented from sitting their practical license test did. Check out this [News Story](#)

After a number of media stories and correspondence and meetings with MP's and government officials, we are confident that driver licensing will soon be reclassified as an essential service.

Online catch ups December 2021



At the end of last year, thanks to COVID, our normal tour of New Zealand to catch up with community providers and driving educators was taken online.

A copy of this event can be found [here](#)

During this meeting, members were asked to vote on which of the Driving Change Network priorities were most important to them. The chart above highlights the results.

These factors were used earlier this year when the Steering Committee gathered to finalise the 2022 plan for the year.

Updates from Waka Kotahi courtesy of our liaison.

- A small-scale review of the official New Zealand road codes are underway to meet a new printing order due in April 2022. This review is focussed on providing better consistency with the theory test questions and better clarification of expectations of road users.
- A review of all learner licence theory test questions is underway. Questions will be rephrased in plain English and images will be provided to assist understanding. These changes should be in place by mid-2022.
- Work is underway within Waka Kotahi to develop a five-year operational and delivery strategy for the future of the driver licensing system.
- Driver testing has been determined to be a close contact service, and to comply with guidelines of the new traffic light system, all test applicants must be fully vaccinated and show a 'My Vaccine Pass' to sit a test. If test applicants are joined by a support person, the support person must also show a Vaccine Pass. If a test can't be conducted, the applicant can choose to have it rescheduled free of charge to a time when it can be conducted safely in line with COVID protocols or obtain a refund from Waka Kotahi. More information is available on the Waka Kotahi and VTNZ websites [COVID INFO](#)
- The effects of Covid-19 lockdowns during the second half of 2021 means driver testing is still experiencing increased wait times across the country, and especially so in Auckland, Northland, and the Waikato. Waka Kotahi is working closely with VTNZ to increase the number of tests available but this will take time. We understand that this may be frustrating for your clients and thank you for your patience.

Alex McMinn

Manager Driver & Operator, Operational Policy & Standards, Systems Integrity



Waka Kotahi Driver Training Online Portal

Waka Kotahi designed the Driver Training and Testing Online Portal for driving educators and course providers to assist them to keep up with any legislative changes, information on topical issues, and to provide quick links to other relevant information and websites. The content on there includes:

- Restricted Licence Test Guide
- Full Licence Test Guide
- Statement of Approval Conditions for Driver Licensing Courses
- Statement of Approval for Competency Training and Assessment
- Road Codes
- Legislation
- Fact Sheets
- DRIVE
- Practise videos and more.

Normally this resource is only made available to i-endorsed driving instructors, however Waka Kotahi have extended the invitation to all Driving Change Network and NZIDE members to be able to access this site.

The portal is available at this link - <https://agent.nzta.govt.nz> To gain access, your will need to use the following username and password.

Username: **DTT**

Password: **NZTADTT**

Member Profile

BLUE LIGHT VENTURES - Youth Driver Navigator Programme

Blue Light's Youth Driver Navigator Programme empowers young people to access education and employment opportunities and achieve life- long success trajectories. By working with young people to tackle their barriers to licensing Blue Light ensures that youth can progress from no licence all the way to obtaining their full licence, while also learning how to be better, safer drivers.

Unfortunately not available to all young people, Blue Light's Youth Driver Navigator Programme seeks to support those who need it the most. Being accepted into a Blue Light Youth Driver Navigator Programme is dependent on being between 16 and 24, having limited or no access to a suitable vehicle, having limited or no access to a supervising adult, and having limited financial means to meet the cost obligations of attaining a licence.

Issues they help students address are financial barriers such as an inability to afford driving instruction or licence fees; time and scheduling barriers such as having home and work obligations; a lack of adequate identification; a lack of access to a licensed supervising adult; a lack of access to an adequate car to practice in; poor literacy; and a family history of undervaluing the benefits of having a licence.

Many participants are driving outside of what their licence legally allows. Blue Light helps these people legitimise their driving to ensure that they do not unnecessarily engage with the justice system, which often compounds many of the issues that prevented them from obtaining a legal driving status in the first place. For many participants they will be the first member of their family to obtain a licence.

After two years in their current contract they proudly boast the following life changing successes

- 2265 Students
- 1831 Learner Licence Passes
- 863 Restricted Licence Passes
- 82 Defensive Driving Participants
- 107 Completed with Full Licence

A recent Good Measure Report of the programme was completed by Impact Lab and they concluded that some of the direct outcomes of participation in the Youth Driver Navigation Programme were:

- Improved self esteem and mental health
- Increased rate of driver licensing in youth
- Increased confidence
- Reduction in risky behaviours on the road

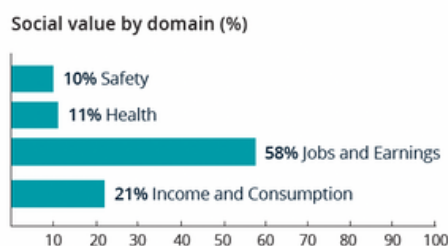
They also concluded that every year this programme delivers \$10,019,972 of measurable good to society, and for every dollar invested in this programme the Youth Driver Navigator programme delivers \$7.20 of measurable good to New Zealand.



Social value breakdown

Blue Light's Youth Driver Navigator Programme creates social value across different aspects of people's lives.

This chart shows the breakdown of social value created according to the Living Standards Framework. Each domain highlights a different aspect of wellbeing.



For more information about this programme of the ImpactLab Good Measure reporting please contact Ken Harema, BLYDN National Manager. Ken@bluelight.co.nz

Hot off the Press

RR 677: The effectiveness of advanced driver training



Waka Kotahi research summary

December 2021

The effectiveness of advanced driver training

Findings and recommendations of the research carried out can be found in this summary flyer [here](#), while the full report can be found [here](#).

We would like you to encourage you to send your feedback to

Member Stories

We need your stories. If you are happy to share a story about your amazing organisation and the work you do to support people to gain their licences in your community, please email wendy@drivingchange.nz.

Getting these stories out is vital so we can provide anecdotal proof of the need in our communities for funding driver education and licensing support. We know how busy everyone is, so we will even phone you and interview you for the story.