



Quarterly Network News, Updates & Information

Quick Updates

**Our website is live -
check it out:**

www.drivingchange.nz

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

Regional Networking Dates

- Hamilton - 27th October - Trust Waikato
- Auckland - 30th October - Auckland Transport
- Napier - 3rd November - Hastings
- Rotorua 4th November - Rotorua Energy Trust
- Wellington- 5th November - Lambton House

**All Network catch ups will run
from 10.30am until 12pm**

More details to come

National Coordinator

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Kia ora koutou katoa,



At the time of writing this, it has been almost exactly a year since that first Driving Change meeting at PWC's Sandbox.

It has been a privilege seeing the Network grow over the last 12 months, and this seems like a good opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved in this time. The 'Steering Group' have met monthly following the hui, and have made some swift and strategic decisions. The Hamilton Multicultural Services Trust (HMS Trust) have come onboard as the fund-holder and employer for the kaupapa, Wendy was recruited as our National Coordinator, basic branding was set up, a strategy set, and a terms of reference for the group established.

Alongside the foundational work, the Network has grown from 60 participants at that first hui to over 180 members. We've developed connections with even more government departments, the AA, and VTNZ; and meetings with Minister Genter have led to reassurance from government of their commitment to work with the Driving Change Network on the 2021 review of the GDLS. The Network now has a 3 year strategy in place, a vision for what a healthier system could look like and a map of the user journey through the system. We've done surveys of our provider members and sent letters to various Ministers and Ministries on key issues.

On a personal note, when I started this journey I was at the Vodafone NZ Foundation and I now find myself at the Todd Foundation and about to have my first child. While Philanthropy New Zealand, the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs, the Vodafone New Zealand Foundation, the Todd Foundation and the J R McKenzie Trust started this particular journey together, there is now a strong community-led group driving this mahi.

I will be stepping down from Chairing the Steering Group and I can't wait to see what the Network achieves under true community leadership. I hope the system my son journeys through (in about 16 years!) is a much healthier one, and I have no doubt that the collaborative power of this group has the potential to make that a reality.

Mā te wā,
Helen



Letter to the Ministers

Our COVID-19 response took the form of a letter sent to several Ministers on 20th July expressing concern for the lack of provision of education and support for Class 1 driver's licences as part of the Targeted Trades and Apprenticeship Fund. We highlighted that for many of the areas funded in this COVID recovery package, a Class 1 licence is a pre-requisite.

We requested Ministers consider inclusion of funded support for Class 1 licence testing, including education and defensive driving as part of the TTAF, and engagement with the Driving Change Network to work on longer-term solutions to overcome the barriers present in the current system.

We received a response from the Associate Minister of Transport - Hon Julie Anne Genter who acknowledged Government "is aware that the ability to access and progress through the driver licensing system is key to social, justice and economic outcomes. This is why the initial action plan for the Road to Zero, includes improving access to the driver licensing system". This will include a review of the current system with the aim being to explore barriers people face to accessing the system.

Minister Genter also followed up this letter with a Zoom Meeting where she gave assurances that the Driving Change Network will play a part in the Graduated Driver Licensing System review commencing in the first quarter of 2021, led by MSD and MOT. Her Transport Private Secretary followed this up with an email introduction to the lead people from MSD and MOT conducting the review.

We are still awaiting a response from Minister Hipkins who holds overall responsibility for the TTAF and Education.

Waka Kotahi Problem Statement

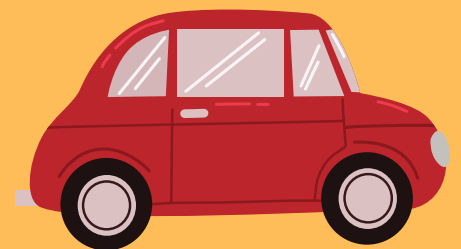
Over the past 12 to 18 months our Community Driver Training programmes have experienced lengthy delays between booking a student's practical licence test, and their students sitting their tests. For many licence seekers this wait time has been the crucial difference between gaining or missing out on employment, or not being able to complete Police compliance conditions.

A formal problem statement was raised with Waka Kotahi about this, requesting:

- Users be able to sit their practical test within 14 days of booking
- Users have the option to sit tests outside school and work hours
- Community Providers are notified of spaces that become available

A response was received from Waka Kotahi on 21st September acknowledging the Networks concerns and assuring us that they are working with VTNZ to recruit new testing officers, reduce waiting times and that they aim to return to pre-COVID levels as soon as possible.

For a copy of these documents please contact wendy@drivingchange.nz



Member Profile

OPEN ROAD PROGRAMME Driver Training for Former Refugees



The Open Road Driver Training Programme is funded through MBIE - NZ Immigration. The programme is largely based on Waka Kotahi's Community Driver Mentor Programme (CDMP) model, with variances to enhance outcomes for our vulnerable former refugee communities.

Open Road has been operating since 2015 and is now offered in 8 refugee resettlement locations: Auckland (Central & South), Hamilton, Palmerston North, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Dunedin. Each location is funded for 35 passes each year (255 overall).

"To date we have supported almost 1,000 former refugees to pass their practical tests. Recently we have focussed on moving previous participants from Restricted to Full, as progression through the GDLS reflects better outcomes in employment as well as road safety."

"We believe best practice delivery that can be tailored to the needs of diverse communities is a key aspect to the programme's success. Like many vulnerable communities, our former refugee community has barriers like vehicle access, funding for lessons, a driving supervisor and wrap-around support to engage with a complex system. They also face language and cultural issues - all of which our programme aims to address."

Open Road Coordinators are members of the Driving Change Network and are excited to be part of advocating for systems-change, because an equitable GDLS will benefit each and every community.

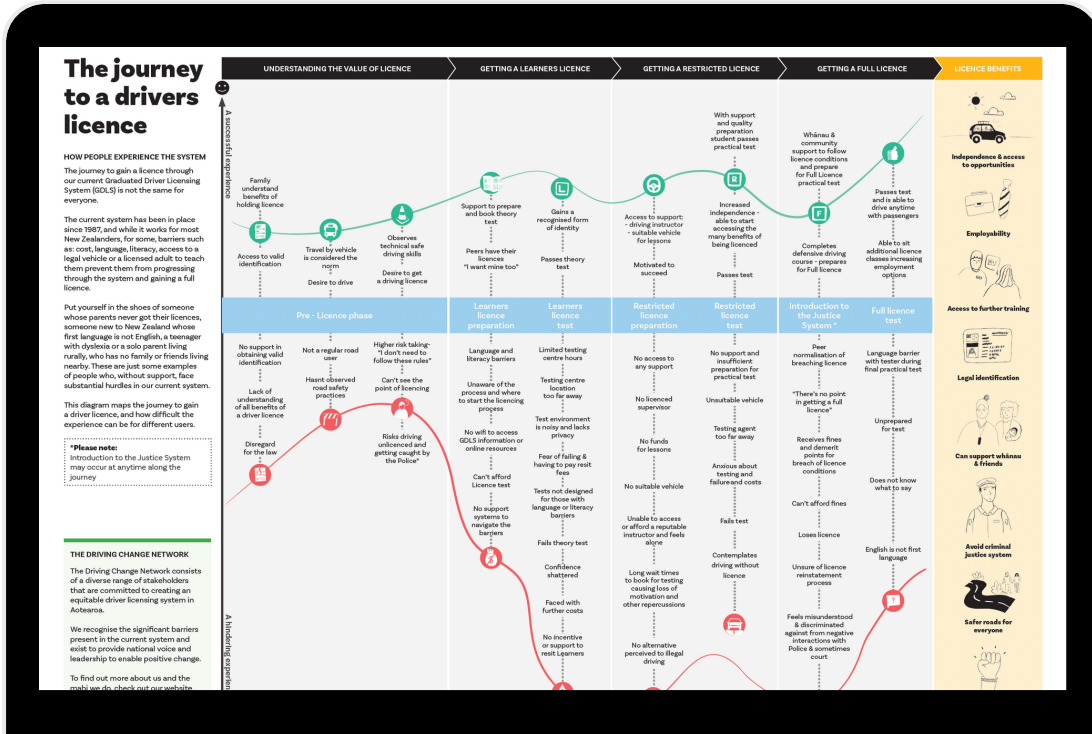
If you would like to gather further information about the programme, please contact Tania Pointon (National Contract Manager) on taniap@hmstrust.org.nz or visit www.openroad.org.nz

PS: Photos were taken during Level 1, currently all learners and driving coaches are wearing face-masks and practising safe hygiene protocols!

Each quarter we will profile one of our members and the amazing programme they run for their community. If you would like to share your story, please email it to wendy@drivingchange.nz

Journey Map

While for some people the journey to a drivers licence can be an easy one, for others this journey can be plagued with hurdles causing some to give up. The map below illustrates the hurdles unsupported users often face. These barriers are what the Driving Change Network are working to overcome through applying an *equity lens* and a *systems change* approach. A copy of this map can be downloaded [here](#).



Strategy 2020

In July members of the Leadership team gathered in Wellington to confirm the Driving Change work-streams and strategic plan for the coming three years. The graphic below shows our vision, how we formed and our journey to date

[Download here.](#)

Driving Change Strategy 2020

The Driving Change Network's strategic plans for the 'driver licensing and education system' as at July 2020



The Hawaiki Hou – Our Vision	A CONTINUALLY EQUITABLE DRIVER EDUCATION AND LICENSING SYSTEM IN AOTEAROA	New Zealand has a valued and resourced driver education system to sit alongside the testing system.	Licences are seen for the social and economic good they provide, beyond road access.	School and community delivery means access for all.				
What came before us	1987 NZ is the first in the world to introduce a Graduated Driver Licensing System	Auckland Co-Design Lab Research highlights user experiences of the GDLS and its key inequities.	Steering Aotearoa Project 2015-2017 pilots and advocates for Driver Licensing in schools.	2015 NZIER Research shows the economic benefits of Driver Licensing.	2019 MBIE stocktake of funding of Driver Licensing education across government.	Cross Govt. Working Group on Driver Licensing headed by MBIE and MOE.		
Journey to date	April 2019: funders and MTFC come together and decide to explore a system change & host a hui.	August 2019: A joint submission is made to the Road to Zero Strategy requesting driver education and equality of access to be added as a key focus.	September 2019: The first hui held: 66 people from a variety of organisations met to plan how to work together to help more people gain the benefits of a driver licence. The Driving Change Network was formed and an open letter to the Prime Minister was sent signed by 21 organisations and individuals.	November 2019: The Network met in Hamilton to begin strategic work. A Steering Group was formed and key workstreams identified. The large numbers of expiring driver's licences, also highlighted in our Road to Zero submission, were extended by two years.	December 2019: Road to Zero Strategy adds an Action plan and focus area on road users to the strategy.	January 2020: Representatives of DCN met with Minister Genter and were connected with MOT staff leading the GDLS review. April 2020: Hamilton Multicultural Services Trust becomes the backbone organisation for DCN providing financial, contracting and employment support.	June 2020: A National Coordinator was employed by the network. Start Terms of Reference agreed on by the Steering Group	July 2020: Letter to Ministers sent requesting Driver education to be funded under the TAFE. DCN Strategic plan is formed. We have 180 members from 92 different organisations
Key focus areas, projects and milestones	Research and Evidence Team - Review of current system and barriers - Scope National authority model and benefits - Highlight best practise for driver licensing and education programmes	Communications and Advocacy Team - Consistent effective messaging for DCN - Effective Government Engagement	Current System - Focus on quick wins and small improvements to the current system	Experimenting and Implementing - Track, pilot and model the changes we would like to see	Penalties Team - Evaluate current Driver Licensing penalties and their effects or users behaviour – Deterrent vs incentives			
Key goals and our next review point "By 2023..."	One clear government department and Minister holding responsibility for driver education and licensing.	A Te Tiriti formed, community led, equity, access focussed 'Driving Authority' is in place. This body: - set best practise education and testing guidelines - are consulted on policy - provide professional development for the sector	2023 System is healthier and fairer than it was in 2019	There is a more coordinated leadership and funding at a Senior Government level	There is a coordinated leadership and a voice at a community provider level (National Body)			