3 April 2017

**Towards Zero this Easter**

The City of Cockburn, WA Police and CoSafe have joined forces to appeal for locals to strive Towards Zero when travelling on the road this school holiday and Easter period.

Towards Zero is the State Government’s road safety strategy for 2008-2020 and aims to change the way the community thinks about road safety in an effort to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads.

Mayor Logan Howlett said the City’s CoSafe security patrol service was regularly in touch with WA Police about local matters of law enforcement, including driver behaviour.

“The police do an incredible job, especially at peak travel times like school holidays and Easter, and our security service CoSafe can help to be the extra ears and eyes on the road but it’s really up to motorists to take responsibility for their actions while driving,” Mayor Howlett said.

“We know it will be a busy time out there so in that knowledge, plan ahead for the inevitable delays and take enough breaks to prevent tiredness. We want to see everyone back home safely.”

Mayor Howlett also reminded drivers to be aware of cyclists and pedestrians, ensuring they have enough clearance, and to safely give way to emergency vehicles.

Cockburn Police Station OIC Senior Sergeant James Bradley said police would be out in greater numbers, particularly during the Easter long weekend, targeting hoon behaviour, and drivers under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

“The main message is drive safely and respect other road users. We will be targeting drivers that break the road laws,” Sen Sgt Bradley said.

“Hooning and speeding, as well as drivers distracted by mobile phones, are ongoing issues for local police but these behaviours become so much more risky at times when the roads are busier during long weekends and holidays.”

South Metropolitan Response (North) Officer in Charge Senior Sergeant Ross Eastman said double demerits would be in place over Easter, from Thursday 13 April to Monday 17 April, inclusive.

CoSafe conducts free holiday patrols past local homes. Fill in an online request form here: <http://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Council_Services/cosafe/Holiday_Watch/default.asp> or call 9411 344 for more information.

ENDS

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