



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
13th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	9
Title	Restore Motorcycle Education Training and Licensing (METAL) to save Lives in the NT
Presented on	22 March 2017
Presented by	Member for Wanguri (Hon Nicole Manison MLA)
Referred to	Minister for Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (Hon Nicole Manison MLA)
Date referred	20 April 2017
Response due	23 August 2017
Response received	20 June 2017
Response to be presented	22 June 2017

Petition

The Northern Territory Government restore Motorcycle Education Training and Licensing (METAL) to save the lives in the NT.

We would like to know why Government funded METAL was disbanded and ask if the motorcycle registration fees will be lowered now that the money from then is not funding METAL and now that privately run course cost \$350.00 instead of \$109.00 under MVR METAL

Response

The METAL program was originally introduced in Darwin on 1 July 1986. The purpose was to improve the education and training of motorcyclists and thereby reduce the incidents of road trauma involving motorcyclists. The program was heavily subsidised throughout its operation.

Over the last 10 years, customer demand has resulted in escalating wait times of up to 12 weeks. Mid week courses were introduced, however these were not popular as participants would need to take time off during the working week to attend.

Resourcing constraints dictated the scheduling of METAL courses as schedules relied on instructor availability, the number of motorcycles in the fleet and the maximum number of motorcyclists able to safely use the riding track simultaneously at a single venue. Coordination of instructor rosters (casual staff that held full time jobs Monday to Friday) presented further challenges with program delivery.

While third party delivery of METAL is still in its infancy, participant numbers now exceed the capacity of the previous MVR administered METAL program. Increasing the availability of training options for motorcycle licensing was a key driver in the decision to outsource the delivery of the METAL program.

Rider training providers deliver the same METAL course at a cost of \$330 per participant. These costs are comparable with similar courses in other jurisdictions (refer Attachment A).

Additional benefits of outsourcing the program has seen providers offering rider training above the standard of the METAL curriculum, including off-road riding techniques and specific scooter training. They can also cater for smaller groups offering a more personalised training experience.

It has also enabled innovation from the external providers, where one provider is using helmet/headset intercoms which enables the instructor to communicate with the participants at all times during the training process.

Registering a vehicle in the Northern Territory consists of a Compulsory Third Party Insurance (CTPI) contribution and a registration fee. The CTPI contribution for each category of vehicle is determined by the Motor Accident Compensation Commissioner. Motorcycles with an engine capacity >260cc attract a higher CTPI fee in comparison to the car CTPI fee.

As expressed in the table below, actual registration costs are minimal.

NT motorcycle registration costs for 12 months are as follows:

Engine Size	Registration	CTPI (includes GST)	Admin Fee	Total
0-125cc	\$ 23.00	\$ 111.65	\$ 10.00	\$ 144.70
126-260cc	\$ 23.00	\$ 311.80	\$ 10.00	\$ 344.80
261-600cc	\$ 23.00	\$ 805.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 838.00
> 600cc	\$ 34.00	\$ 805.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 849.00

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics receives \$3.085 million in funding per annum from the NT Motor Accidents Compensation Commission (MACC). This funding is utilised for the delivery of the Drivesafe Urban program, road safety education and awareness and the administration of the METAL program.

Attachment A

Jurisdictional Analysis

	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
Minimum age for Class R learner's permit	16 years and 9 months	16 years and 9 months	16 years	Must hold a Class C licence for a minimum of 12 months	16 years 9 months	16 years and 5 months	16 years and 9 months	16 years 9 months
Mandatory pre-learner training or course	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Indicative course price	\$256.00	\$91.00 (subsidised)	\$330.00	\$660.00	\$364.00	\$300.00	\$585.00	N/A
Pre-learner course duration	Mandatory 7 hours over 1 day, with options to extend over 2 days	Mandatory 7 hours over 2 days	OPTIONAL 12.5 hours over 2 days	Mandatory 12.5 hours over 2 days	Mandatory 8 hours over 2 days (4 hours per day)	Mandatory 8 hours over 2 days (4 hours per day)	Mandatory 12 hours over 2 days	N/A