



Premier of Western Australia

Our Ref: 24-44288/NH

Mr Glenn Secco
President
Australian Drivers' Association Inc.
PO Box 1110
SUBIACO WA 6904

Dear Mr Secco

Thank you for your letter seeking investigation into the use of Safety Warning Systems (SWS) in Western Australia and a proposed ban on radar detectors.

Inappropriate speed contributes to approximately one-third of all fatal crashes and many more serious injuries in Western Australia each year. The social cost of this road trauma is substantial, totalling around \$275 million in 2009.

Reducing speeding is therefore a key element of the State's road safety strategy for 2008 - 2020, *Towards Zero*, with enhanced enforcement operations a priority. The use of radar and laser detection and jamming devices by drivers for the evasion of Police speed monitoring remains a concern for State Government.

As you have indicated, road safety strategy and policy relies on sound evidence and I am confident that any initiative that leads to a reduction in travel speeds across the road network will deliver the expected safety gains. The use of radar detectors and other devices to avoid speed detection by Police seems difficult to justify in this regard.

With regard to the ability of radar detectors to receive messages from emergency vehicles and at work zones and black spots, I understand that the Minister for Police; Emergency Services; Road Safety, has undertaken to review the international literature on Safety Warning Systems (SWS) and drone radar and relate the findings to the Western Australian context.

Thank you once again for sharing your views on radar detectors and the importance of the SWS technology.

Yours sincerely

Colin Barnett MLA
PREMIER