

tabled L. Hiscott  
22 June 2022  
Hiscott

# RESPONSE TO PETITION

## Petition No. 37 of 2021 Legislative Council

The petitioners ask the House to:

Electors of Huon draw to the attention of the House:

The considerable danger posed by the lack of a pedestrian path between Oyster Court and Oxleys Road on Channel Highway Kettering. The Channel Highway in this area is very narrow, but carries a high volume of vehicular traffic. There are also many pedestrians (both local and from out of the area) who utilise this road to access Trial Bay from Kettering and vice versa. As well, many walkers use this road as part of a circular link to the Trial Bay Track. There is no pedestrian path, so walkers are required to walk on the side of the road with no separation from the cars. Cars are often seen having to swerve around the pedestrians into the lane of the other side of the road, as well as pedestrians having to jump to safety into the ditch beside the road. This is fraught with danger to both pedestrians and also to the vehicular traffic and inevitably a serious accident will occur.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the House to:

Support the construction of a walking track on the Crown Land that sits above the Channel Highway in the area between Oyster Court and Oxleys Road. This pathway does not need to be paved, but could be construction with gravel and road base similar to many other walking tracks. Not only will this be much safer for pedestrians and vehicular traffic, but also the physical; social and mental well-being of the community will be improved.



## GOVERNMENT POSITION:

The Department of State Growth is currently looking at investments that can be implemented to achieve improved performance, reliability and safety for the Channel Highway. The Department has recently completed a Corridor Study of the Channel Highway between Algona Road and Sandfly Road to provide options that improve connectivity for all transport modes.

The petition notes the use of the Channel Highway to and from the Trial Bay Track.

From the recent Corridor Study the Channel Highway has an Average Annual Daily Traffic of 16 500 with AM and PM peaks of over 1 000 vehicles per hour. The Channel Highway in the area covered by the petition has a cross-section that is reasonably narrow with lanes approximately three metres wide with edge lines and limited and inconsistent shoulder provided on either side of the road. The posted speed limit is 60 km/h.

It is noted that Kingborough Council has recently published the *Kingborough Cycling Strategy 2021-2030* with the objective of developing a connected network of trails, shared paths, cycleways, bike lanes and promoting road safety. The proposed network plan in the Cycling Strategy ends at the Ferry Road footpath.

A review of the geometry and existing road and pedestrian features in the area would be supported by the Department if Kingborough Council would consider extending its network plan with a focus on delivering a shared path from the current footpath at Ferry Road to the Trial Bay public facilities.

## RESPONSE:

- The Kingborough Council is best placed to determine the appropriateness or priority for extension of its existing pathway network between Oyster Court and Oxleys Road.



Michael Ferguson MB  
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Date: 12 June 2022

