### Young Drivers: Licensing and Employability

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Neil Shaw, ACC Leah Gates, Auckland Chamber of Commerce

# What does ACC and the Auckland Chamber know about driver licensing?

# The Young Driver Project





Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara

# NZ's Young Drivers

NZ Population age 16-24 in 2013

Census 16 -24 527,463

Learner Drivers 16-24 132,000

**Restricted Drivers 16-24** 

113,000

Full Licences 16-24

190,000

Therefore No DL 16-24 = 92,000

As at  $18^{\text{th}}$  Nov 2013

## NZ's Young Drivers Pooling on the GDLS

- **39,000** 16-24's have held learner licence between 18 months and 5 years (i.e. approx 30% of total learner licence holders)
- **only 10%** of these have even attempted the restricted test (3,950)

### NZ's Young Drivers Licensing and "breach"

- 79,652 offence notices issued to 40,001 young drivers for GDLS breaches - 62% of these for 'learner' breaches
- 29% of licensed young drivers committed at least one traffic offence (over and above those 'breach' offences)
- Young drivers: 14% of NZ driving population but 37% of disqualified drivers

*Figures for the FY2011/12 from CRSI Young Driver Intelligence Assessment 2013 (unpublished)* 

NZ's Young Drivers Community and Social Norms (in Mangere)\*

- Widespread and socially acceptable to drive unlicensed or in breach
- Wider community attitude reinforces 'acceptance'
- **'Being of service'** justifies the means (driving in breach...)
- Attitude towards getting licensed is more one of **complacency** rather than being against actually getting licensed

\*Synergia Ltd: 2013, qualitative research for Auckland Transport and ACC

# Just Get a Licence! What's the problem?



- Access to the tools you need to learn this skill
- Cost
- Social and family norms
- Testing stations capacity and service

## ACC interest is in driver safety



1- Mirror



NZ's Young Drivers Death and Injury among 16-24's

- **61 deaths** and **591 serious injuries** caused by 16-24 year old drivers (24 killed themselves).
- 79% of passengers aged 16-24 killed in a crash died in a vehicle driven by a young driver
- young driver is 'at fault' in 81% of fatal crashes and 78% of serious injury crashes

\*Stats 16-24yo in 2012. CRSI Young Driver Intelligence Assessment 2013 (unpublished)

# Auckland Chamber of Commerce interest is youth employment

09 426 380

# CADETMAX

- Youth Employment Programme for 18-24yo in South Auckland run by the Auckland Chamber of Commerce
- Supports 250-300 young people per annum who are NEET
- Work readiness, placed in jobs and mentored for 12mnths





# **Employment Barrier – Drivers Licence**

**Employers require a drivers license** 

- Core competency of the role trades, transport, logistics
- Issue of reliability to get to work
- Perceived as lacking motivation
- 83% of job seekers are unable to apply for a job vacancy where a drivers licence is a core competency.



# **Employment Barrier – Industry Realities**

#### Major industries for entry level staff

- Building/Construction
- Retail/Hospitality
- Manufacturing
- Minimum of Restricted Licence

•A young person with a full or restricted licence is **three times more likely** to secure employment.





### Oh what to to, what to dooo?

# **Rethink Drivers Education**



Keskinen, Peraaho, Laapotti, 2010

### Create a community culture The Young Driver Project



Set up to succeed in the system – not fail!

### Best practice models CadetMax Drivers Licence Service

- Speak to **MOTIVATION** the importance and impact on employment opportunities is crystal clear
- Recognise that young people are driving and acknowledge the competency
- Support the person through the next stage:
  - Providing computers and instructions
  - Providing driving instructor and car
  - Booking and paying for the licence



Young Driver Signature Project



# **Next Steps?**

- NZTA RFP Driver Testing services
- 1<sup>st</sup> December make progress or lose your licence in 5 yrs (not 10)
  - Bulk Testing
  - Capacity for the "bubble"
- MED put licensing in education
  - Started with Vocational Pathways
  - Cost and student loan to sit
- How do we bring to scale the "supporting" process?
- Address rural and city challenges
- Young people on benefit

### THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**