



Media release

Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Drivers should be required to help animals injured in roadstrike incidents: Report

The Victorian Government should consider requiring motorists to stop and render assistance to wildlife they have struck when safe to do so, a report tabled in the Legislative Council today has recommended.

That could mean simply reporting the collision to a wildlife rescue organisation. To facilitate this the report recommends establishing a single, statewide phone number for reporting wildlife–vehicle collisions, so motorists can quickly access assistance and wildlife rescue services regardless of their location.

The Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee inquired into wildlife roadstrike in Victoria. The Committee received 469 submissions and held three days of public hearings, taking evidence from wildlife rescue organisations, local councils, research scientists, police, farmers and others.

“The injuring and killing of native animals as a result of collisions with motor vehicles, or wildlife roadstrike, is a crisis in Victoria that causes enormous suffering for the animals but also substantially increases the risk of death and injury to motorists,” said Committee Chair Georgie Purcell.

The Committee has made 32 findings and 18 recommendations. The inquiry found that volunteers incur substantial costs when delivering rescue and shelter services. The report recommends giving Victorians the option to voluntarily contribute a nominal amount through yearly vehicle registration, with the funds going to support wildlife rescue and shelter in Victoria.

“Animal rescuers give up their time, resources and, in many cases, their psychological and emotional well-being, to respond to roadstrike events day and night,” said Ms Purcell.

“I hope that the implementation of recommendations in this report may make their lives easier.”

The report is available to download from the Committee’s [website](#).

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