



# Cabinet Economic Development Committee

## Minute of Decision

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### Increasing the Infringement Fee for Using a Mobile Phone While Driving

**Portfolio**                      **Transport**

On 24 March 2021, the Cabinet Economic Development Committee:

- 1        **noted** that the current infringement fee for using a mobile phone while driving is \$80, which was set in 2009 at the time the offence was created;
- 2        **noted** that:
  - 2.1      the current fee is an anomaly in the current penalties system, and that no other individual infringement fees are set at \$80;
  - 2.2      the fee for most moving vehicle offences is \$150;
- 3        **agreed** to increase the infringement fee for using a mobile phone while driving to \$150 to align with other related penalties;
- 4        **noted** that driving while using a mobile phone carries 20 demerit points, which is the same number of points that applies to several other moving vehicle offences that carry a \$150 infringement fee;
- 5        **noted** that no changes are proposed at this time to the number of demerit points associated with using a mobile phone while driving;
- 6        **noted** that a wider review of key road safety penalties is expected to commence later in 2021;
- 7        **noted** that to give effect to paragraph 3 above, an amendment to Schedule 1 of the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999 is required;
- 8        **agreed** to amend Schedule 1 of the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Regulations 1999 to give effect to paragraph 3 above;
- 9        **noted** that the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Amendment Regulations 2021 will give effect to paragraph 3 above;

- 10 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the Land Transport (Offences and Penalties) Amendment Regulations 2021 [PCO 23384/8.0];
- 11 **noted** that the Amendment Regulations will come into force on 23 April 2021.

Janine Harvey  
Committee Secretary

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**Present:**

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)  
Hon Dr Megan Woods  
Hon Poto Williams  
Hon Damien O'Connor  
Hon Stuart Nash  
Hon Willie Jackson  
Hon Michael Wood  
Hon Dr Ayesha Verrall  
Hon Meka Whaitiri  
Hon Phil Twyford  
Rino Tirikatene, MP  
Dr Deborah Russell, MP

**Officials present from:**

Office of the Prime Minister  
Officials Committee for DEV

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Minister of Transport