



Media Release

24 October 2017

Cockburn learner drivers RYDE to success

Cockburn learner drivers finding it difficult to rack up the 50 hours of supervised driving needed to qualify for their WA driver's licence have a new option to consider.

The City of Cockburn's Youth Services has launched Perth's second RYDE (Regional Youth Driver Education) program for a 12-month trial.

It was launched at Cockburn Youth Services today, 24 October.

It has already received several applications from interested volunteer Driving Mentors, and many approaches from local learner drivers aged 16-24 keen to gain vital experience on the road.

Youth Services Manager Michelle Champion said the program would enable eligible learner drivers to pay \$15 for 90-minute sessions with a specially selected and trained mentor in an automatic vehicle provided.

Bookings would be made online with the collection and drop-off point at Cockburn Youth Centre in Cockburn Central.

In November 2012 the State government increased from 25 to 50 the number of supervised driving hours needed by learner drivers to qualify for their license.

"This change was a result of research which showed the main cause of novice drivers being involved in a crash was inexperience.

"But it has also made it harder for some young people with limited access to a car and driving supervisor to log the increased hours," Ms Champion said.

"Sometimes it's very hard for busy families and students with study and work commitments to find 50 supervised driving hours in a six-month period, and that's where this program helps.



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“There are many reasons why the 50 hours is hard to complete for the log book but not getting a driver’s license limits opportunities for our young people, and we want to help these kids go after their study, work and life opportunities, not fall behind.”

The program was established by the Town of Bassendean and is also offered in the South West.

The City is looking for mentors and drivers and bookings can be made through the RYDE website. For more information, phone 08 9411 3888 or visit ryde.org.au

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