



19 November 2021

Hon Darren Chester MP
Chair
Joint Select Committee on Road Safety
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

via Email: Road.Safety.reps@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Chester,

I write in response to a letter directed to you by the Australian Motorcycle Council (AMC) dated 8 November 2021 that purports to criticise and/or “correct” aspects of the testimony given before the Committee by myself and two other representatives of RAGWA.

So as not to unnecessarily take up the Committee’s valuable time, the AMC’s verbose letter can be distilled as attempting to make the following points:

- 1) That the AMC is the “peak” representative body for motorcyclists in Australia by virtue of its “affiliate” bodies in “every State and Territory” and that these bodies “truly represent the bulk of the motorcycling fraternity”. The “Ulysses Club” is also cited as one such entity.
- 2) That the Motorcycle Riders Association of Western Australia (not RAGWA) is one such example of a functional affiliate representative body of riders in Western Australia.

The AMC has not attempted to provide any evidence to support these matters or that they point to error in the opening statement by RAGWA, it has resorted to mere assertions to the contrary.


I shall therefore very briefly address the points enumerated above although I do not think it desirable to repeat evidence RAGWA has already presented to the Committee in testimony and via its written submission.

With respect to (1) I refer the Committee to the evidence presented in my opening statement which detailed – State body by State body - their hapless disorganisation, small stature and history of infighting/splitting. In reference to the Ulysses Club, the Committee may wish to note that membership of that Club is limited to riders aged 40 and above (previously it was age 50) and thus it can hardly be described as representative of anything but a demographically delimited segment of riders.

The AMC characterises via (2) the Motorcycle Riders Association of Western Australia (MRAWA) as one of its “active and engaged” affiliates, with “growing memberships, value added benefits” and the like. The current state of affairs with the MRAWA is that the President, Secretary, Safety Officer, Memberships and Merchandise Officer all resigned from this “affiliate” in September, leaving it with two Committee Members. Further, at its recent AGM it failed to fill the positions of Vice President and Secretary, leaving it without a management committee and therefore the capacity to function under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015* (WA).

RAGWA is of the view that the AMC letter is devoid of any valuable contribution to the Committee's endeavours and should be disregarded in its entirety.

Yours faithfully


Damen Keevers
Chair
RAGWA Inc