

Media Release

The Hon Vicki Ward MP

Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Natural Disaster Recovery
Minister for Equality



Thursday, 2 April 2026

FATIGUE CAN BE FATAL – TAKE A BREAK THIS EASTER

Victorian drivers are being urged to slow down, stop and rest to stay safe on this Easter long weekend.

Minister for Emergency Services Vicki Ward joined road trauma survivor Brett Mitchell to launch the Easter Driver Reviver campaign ahead of the busy holiday period.

Volunteers from Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) and the Lions Club will staff Driver Reviver sites across Victoria helping motorists manage fatigue and arrive safely at their destination.

Mr Mitchell was seriously injured in a motorcycle crash on the Great Ocean Road last year and was rescued in a complex, multi-agency response involving VICSES crews.

Fatigue is a major risk on long drives. Losing focus for just a moment can have devastating consequences.

More than 30 Driver Reviver sites will operate across Victoria alongside TAC Pause Stop locations – safe places where drivers can pull over for a free tea or coffee and a short rest.

Run by volunteers for more than 35 years, Driver Reviver encourages motorists to take at least 15 minutes off the road to rest, recharge and stay alert.

The program has supported over 50 million Australians serving over 23 million teas and coffees and 28 million snacks.

VICSES volunteers responded to more than 2,500 road crash rescues in the past financial year — and this Easter, they would far rather hand you a cup of coffee than respond to a serious crash further down the road.

Driver Reviver site locations are available at driverreviver.com.au/driver-reviver-sites and Pause Stop locations can be found at tac.vic.gov.au/pausestop.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Emergency Services Vicki Ward

"Our emergency service volunteers are out there all long weekend helping keep people safe – drivers slowing down and taking a break makes a real difference to your own and the community's safety."

"Fatigue can be deadly behind the wheel. Stopping for a short break and grabbing a tea or a coffee can save lives."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety Melissa Horne

"Long weekends mean more cars on the road and a higher risk of fatigue-related crashes – that's why drivers must take regular breaks and never drive tired."

"A short stop can make all the difference, helping you stay alert and get to your destination safely."

Quote attributable to Transport Accident Commission CEO Tracey Slatter

"We're urging all Victorians to prioritise safety for themselves, their families and everyone sharing the road, as they head into the Easter break – rest up, slow down, put the phone away and separate drinking from driving."

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