



# Robyn Preston MP

## Member for Hawkesbury

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday, 28 August 2020

### FARMERS URGED TO BUCKLE UP

The NSW Government has launched a new campaign urging farmers using side-by-side vehicles to wear seat belts following a spate of deaths across the state.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston, said the campaign is focused on lifting on-farm safety following a rise in preventable deaths in side-by-side vehicles.

“These tragic accidents shouldn’t happen, and this is an important reminder to farmers that despite being the safer option, side-by-side vehicles can still be deadly if not used safely,” Ms Preston Said.

“Seven people across NSW have lost their lives in the last twelve months in side-by-side vehicle accidents, which may have been prevented if the right safety measures were taken.”

The NSW Government offers safety rebates to help farmers, including \$2,000 for the purchase of a safer side-by-side vehicle, \$600 for the purchase of an operator protective (rollover) device, \$90 for the purchase of a compliant helmet and \$500 for the purchase of a drone.

Minister for Better Regulation and Innovation, Kevin Anderson has encouraged all farmers to take advantage of the rebates available.

“It’s been a tough time for our farmers, which is why the Government has made sure being safe is not cost prohibitive.”

“I’m urging all farmers to prioritise your own safety, and the safety of those who work with you, by using on-farm vehicles responsibly and with the correct safety gear.”

SafeWork NSW has also partnered with Tocal College to deliver free side-by-side vehicle accredited training.

For more information on safety, rebates and training, please visit <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/quad-bikes-and-side-by-side-vehicles>.