New Zealand Horse Ambulance Trust 114 Wrights Road c/- Harness Racing NZ PO Box 459 Christchurch 8140



23 August 2024

Julia McLean New Zealand Equine Advocacy Network Canterbury Equestrian Advocacy Group Chair

Dear Julia,

Congratulations on your work to improve the safety of horse riders on New Zealand's roads.

As a charitable trust promoting the welfare and well-being of horses, we wholeheartedly support a change in legislation to protect horse riders; and the impetus to raise awareness for greater care by road users when travelling near horses and riders.

Pass Wide And Slow is a vital message to raise awareness for road users when travelling near horse riders. However, a change in legislation is required to recognise equestrians as vulnerable road users.

The effect of a fall from a startled horse can be catastrophic for the rider, and a loose horse can create more danger on the road for other users.

As part of a connected equestrian community throughout New Zealand, the Trust supports the petition for change for horse riders to be recognised as vulnerable road users.

Yours sincerely

Mike Godber Chairperson

NZ Horse Ambulance Trust