
1. WELCOME, ATTENDANCE APOLOGIES

Attendees:

Mr Jim Cox, Chair
Ms Michelle Harwood, Executive Director, Tasmanian Transport Association
Mr Darren Hine, Commissioner, Tasmania Police
Professor Ian Johnston, Road Safety Expert
Mr Paul Kingston, CEO, Motor Accidents Insurance Board (MAIB)
Mr Harvey Lennon, CEO, RACT
Ms Emma Pharo, President, Tasmanian Bicycle Council
Dr Katrena Stephenson, CEO, Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)
Mr Gary Swain, Deputy Secretary Transport Services, Department of State Growth (State Growth)

Apologies:

Mr Paul Bullock, President, Tasmanian Motorcycle Council (TMC)

Observers:

Ms Ange Green, Manager RSAC Secretariat, State Growth
Mr Craig Hoey, Manager Road Safety, State Growth
Ms Penny Nicholls, General Manager Road User Services, State Growth
Ms Hannah Norris, Policy Officer, Road Safety, State Growth

DISCUSSION

The Chair welcomed members and observers to the 29th meeting of the Road Safety Advisory Council (RSAC). The Chair also welcomed Michelle Harwood, Executive Director Tasmanian Transport Association to her first meeting.

2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

DISCUSSION

Members endorsed the minutes of the previous RSAC meeting (22 November 2016). Members noted the status of actions from previous meetings.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

DISCUSSION

Correspondence for the last quarter was noted.

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

RSAC noted the Chair's Report, including:

2017 Year to date

There have been 158 serious casualties (17 fatalities and 141 serious injuries) to 30 June 2017, down 6 per cent on the same period last year of 168 serious casualties (22 fatalities and 146 serious injuries) and down 1.4 per cent on the five year average of 160.2 serious casualties.

Minister's approvals

Since the last meeting of RSAC, the Minister for Infrastructure has approved:

- funding of \$75,000 from the Road Safety Levy to undertake stage one of the Motorcycle Protective Gear Project
- funding of \$3 million from the Road Safety Levy to undertake safety improvements on the Lyell Highway, from Ouse to Strickland
- funding of \$132,000 funding from the Road Safety Levy for DPFEM to appoint a Project Manager to progress initiatives under the Towards Zero Strategy
- extension of the Vulnerable Road User Program to June 2018 and funding of \$500,000 from the Road Safety Levy. No decision has yet been made on extension of the Program to 30 June 2022, an increase in funding allocated to the Program from \$500,000 to \$1 million per annum, and an increase in the maximum amount that can be allocated to a single project from \$250,000 to \$500,000
- funding of \$350,000 from the Road Safety Levy for a two-stage enforcement campaign
- appointment of Ms Michelle Harwood, Executive Director, Tasmanian Transport Association (TTA), to represent the heavy vehicle industry on RSAC.

TTA representation on RSAC

Mr Robin Phillips resigned as Executive Director, TTA effective 10 August 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Phillips for his service to road safety, for representing the heavy vehicle industry and to contributing to the reduction of serious casualties on Tasmanian roads.

Road Torque

RSAC again partnered with Southern Cross to deliver the sixth year of Road Torque, which was televised during Southern Cross Monday evening news throughout July. Each three-minute segment was about a road behaviour, including:

- 3 July – Safety at roadworks
- 10 July – Texting
- 17 July – Motorcyclists
- 24 July - Safe Systems
- 31 July - Police Patrol

Southern Cross advised the average rating was 86,000, or 17 percent of the population. The arrangement we have is a generous one. For an investment of \$30,000 we receive around \$300,000 worth of production and airtime.

Top 10 Misunderstood Road Rules

A new brochure, featuring the Top 10 Misunderstood Road Rules will be launched at the end of August. This will work in with the new printing contract for registration renewals. Distribution of the brochure will be through Service Tasmania outlets, Registration and Licensing Driver Assessments, and Driver Instructors. Promotion will occur through registration renewals, Tasmania Police's Facebook page, and RACT Journeys. The brochure will also feature on the refurbished RSAC website. It is hoped that the release of the brochure will direct traffic to the new website and create interest in the new website.

National Road Safety Action Plan

Work is progressing on the next national action plan (2018-2020) under the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS). The three-year action plan will be the final action plan under the current NRSS which finishes in 2020. The Action Plan will again be based on the Safe System approach and will include actions under Safe People, Safe Vehicles, Safe Roads and Roadsides, Safe Speeds and Advancing the Safe System.

The Road Safety Task Force met in Melbourne on 11 August for a drafting workshop. A national stakeholder forum was held 18 August in Canberra, with a final paper to be submitted to TISOC on 22 September.

5. REVIEW OF THE GRADUATED LICENSING SYSTEM (GLS)

DISCUSSION

Yasmin Maskiell and Jonathan McGuffie from the Road Safety Branch, State Growth, joined the meeting to discuss the options package for the Tasmanian GLS.

RACT expressed support for the package. Members discussed individual initiatives and potential impact on young people in regional areas. It was agreed that a range of exemptions for the purposes of employment or study be further considered. Tasmania Police are supportive of the package and keeping changes simple for young people to understand and so that changes can be effectively enforced.

Members discussed whether the package is comprehensive enough and it was agreed that advice to Government should outline that review of the GLS will be ongoing over time and that as an aspiration we will strive toward the exemplar model.

RSAC noted that Victoria has completed a 10 year evaluation of their GLS. State Growth will meet with Victorian counterparts and discuss application of various initiatives, how they work, rural/urban consideration, what their experience has been in implementing and feedback from the community.

State Growth will provide additional information for RSAC out-of-session in October, in relation to the Victorian evaluation and broadened exemptions.

RSAC endorsed the package in principle, subject to consideration of additional work.

Actions

- State Growth will provide additional information to RSAC out-of-session in October, in relation to the Victorian evaluation and broadened exemptions.
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6. MOTORCYCLE PROTECTIVE GEAR PROJECT

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted stage one of the motorcycle protective gear project aimed at shifting attitudes, by encouraging riders to cover their bodies in full motorcycle protective gear. A short video has been produced and will be included as part of the curriculum of the new Motorcycle Training Program. A fold out brochure will also target motorcycle riders at point of purchase.

7. TOURIST ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY – PHASE 2

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted the Tourist Road Safety Strategy and endorsed funding of \$650,000 from the Road Safety Levy to implement a range of targeted initiatives aimed at interstate motorcyclists, international tourists and seasonal workers. A tourist road safety website will also be developed but funded separately.

Actions

- State Growth to provide a Minute to the Minister seeking approval for \$650,000 funding from the Road Safety Levy for the Tourist Road Safety Strategy – Phase 2.
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8. MOTORCYCLE LEARNER LICENSING AGE

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted that State Growth has decided to delay any changes to the minimum six-month continuous motorcycle learner period and agreed to the principle that the minimum age for driving a motor vehicle solo or riding a motorcycle solo should at least be the same, subject to discussions with the Tasmanian Motorcycle Council representative, out-of-session. RSAC further noted that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles will undertake analysis of the impact of the current minimum six-month continuous motorcycle learner period on the new Motorcycle Training and Assessment Program. This will inform any future recommendations on the need, or otherwise, to change the current minimum six-month continuous motorcycle learner period requirement.

Actions

- State Growth to discuss the principle that the minimum age for driving a motor vehicle solo or riding a motorcycle solo should at least be the same, subject to discussions with the Tasmanian Motorcycle Council representative, out-of-session
- State Growth to will undertake analysis of the impact of the current minimum six-month continuous motorcycle learner period on the new Motorcycle Training and Assessment Program.

- Manager RSAC Secretariat to circulate TMC comments to all members and to place on November RSAC agenda if required.
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9. RSAC MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted that RSAC member appointments expire on 31 October 2017 and that State Growth will propose to the Minister that members be re-appointed for a period of three years to 31 October 2020.

RSAC further noted that the independent Chair position expires 1 December 2017 and will be considered separately by the Minister.

Paul Kingston advised that Jeremy Woolley is currently undertaking a review of the MAIB funding agreement and will be seeking the views of RSAC members.

Actions

- State Growth to provide a Minute to the Minister seeking approval for re-appointment of RSAC members for a period of three years to 31 October 2020.
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10. COMMUNITY ROAD SAFETY GRANTS PROGRAM

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted the current round for the Community Road Safety Grants (CRSG) Program closes on 1 September 2017. RSAC further noted the CRSG Program Round One funding summary report provided.

RSAC discussed the preference for programs to align with the Towards Zero Strategy and that those programs receiving high levels of funding should provide some evaluation of the effectiveness of the program, but that this should not be too onerous. There was also discussion around the opportunity for State Growth to work with grant applicants to assist them in shaping their applications to align with the Strategy. Gary Swain asked about Intellectual Property Rights in regard to projects.

Actions

- Road Safety Branch to provide advice in regard to Intellectual Property Rights to Gary Swain.
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11. LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM (LDMP) - 2017-18 ROUND

RSAC noted that \$702,675 was awarded to 16 LDMPs for the 2017-18 financial year. RSAC further noted the Assessment Panel Report and that an independent evaluation of the LDMP funding program and DMT Co-ordinator will commence late in 2017.

The evaluation will look at performance and service delivery of current LDMPs & DMT and effectiveness of funding program.

12. RSAC WEBSITE REDEVELOPMENT

RSAC noted the presentation of the newly redeveloped RSAC website. Further work will be undertaken on the Safe System approach. The website is available at www.rsac.tas.gov.au

Actions

- State Growth to advise members when the website is live so that they can share the website URL with their organisations and members.
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13. DEFERRED ITEMS – ROADSIDE CRASH MARKER REVIEW

RSAC noted the Roadside Crash Marker Review has been deferred to a future meeting in 2018. Members further noted that State Growth is in discussions with councils about re-skinning crash marker signage with relevant road safety messages.

14. TOWARDS ZERO QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

RSAC noted the Quarterly Progress Report to 30 June 2017, under the new *Towards Zero - Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy 2017-2026*. RSAC noted that serious injuries are increasing and fatalities decreasing nationally.

Actions

- State Growth to revise statistical representations in the report, including the Towards Zero Strategy target on page 2 and the national comparison, which should show a five year rolling average.
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15. PROGRESS REPORT: EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT SUB COMMITTEE

RSAC noted the Education and Enforcement Sub Committee's progress report. Paul Kingston advised that Real Mates is being redeveloped and refreshed and will be delivered through various media platforms to engage with young people. Paul Kingston advised that Road Torque was widely viewed and had a strong impact with audiences. RSAC further noted that Road Safety Week again received good coverage by the media.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

RSAC noted that the Minister approved extension of the Vulnerable Road User Program to June 2018 and funding of \$500,000 from the Road Safety Levy. No decision has yet been made on extension of the Program to 30 June 2022, an increase in funding allocated to the Program from \$500,000 to \$1 million per annum, and an increase in the maximum amount that can be allocated to a single project from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

RSAC noted that work is progressing on the next national action plan (2018-2020) under the National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS). The Action Plan will go to Ministers in November 2017.

Members noted that the Australian Road Safety Conference is to be held in Western Australia from 9-12 October 2017. All members are encouraged to attend this pre-eminent conference.

RSAC noted that interviews have been conducted for the DPFEM to appoint a Project Manager to progress initiatives under the Towards Zero Strategy.

RSAC members discussed the possible use of variable message boards, funded from the Road Safety Levy, being utilised to promote road safety at the start of motorcycling season and to dovetail with major police enforcement campaigns.

Actions

- Road Safety Branch to liaise with councils about use of Variable Message Boards to promote road safety messages and complement existing activities.
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