
1. WELCOME, ATTENDANCE APOLOGIES

Attendees:

Mr Jim Cox, Chair

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

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

Mr Robin Phillips, Executive Director, Tasmanian Transport Association

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 Darren Hine, Commissioner, Tasmania Police

Observers:

Ms Ange Green, Manager RSAC Secretariat, Department of State Growth

Mr Craig Hoey, Manager Road Safety, Department of State Growth

Mr Glenn Frame, Assistant Commissioner, Tasmania Police

DISCUSSION

The Chair welcomed members and observers to the 26th meeting of the Road Safety Advisory Council (RSAC).

2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

DISCUSSION

Members endorsed the minutes of the previous RSAC meeting (16 August 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:

Statistics

There have been 235 serious casualties (29 fatalities and 206 serious injuries) to 30 September 2016, down 1.7 per cent on the same period last year of 239 serious casualties (26 fatalities and 213 serious injuries) and up 9.2 per cent on the five year average of 215.2 serious casualties.

Tourist road safety strategy

I was pleased to make some progress in developing the next stage of the tourist road safety strategy when Neil Spark and I had meetings with a number of hire car company managers, to seek their support in helping us disseminate key messages to international tourists. The Bobbie the Bear hanging flyer on car steering wheels and rear view mirrors, and placement of a 'keep left' sticker on the driver's side of the windscreen will help to educate international drivers about safe driving practices in Tasmania. Permission is currently being sought to hang the flyers on doors in accommodation venues around Tasmania. The installation of 'Bobbie the Bear' signage in popular tourist spots around the state is currently being progressed.

In addition, the Tasmanian Motorcycle Council's safe-riding-in-Tasmania brochure has been revised and will be given to visiting motorcyclists on the Spirit of Tasmania.

'The Safe System in Action – Challenges and Opportunities'

Tasmania hosted 'The Safe System in Action – challenges and opportunities' in Hobart on 29-30 August. A wide range of stakeholders attended and provided valuable input towards finding the most effective ways to eliminate road trauma in Australia. The quality of the discussion was excellent and outcomes of the Workshop will assist in progressing the safe system journey.

There is an opportunity to repeat this workshop, possibly in the north of state.

5. CRASH DATA MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted the presentation by Simon Buddle, Crash Data Manager, State Growth, in regard to the collection, consolidation, enhancement and analysis of Tasmanian crash data.

Members discussed under-reporting of crashes and agreed that with the establishment of State Trauma Services there may now opportunities to get better data from hospitals.

Professor Johnston discussed crash data in Victoria and noted a number of issues that may also be relevant to Tasmania, including that under-reporting of vulnerable road users such as cyclists and motorcyclists is prevalent. He also discussed that police officers' focus when completing a crash report is determining a prosecutable offence, which may not lead to the most accurate reporting of crash cause. Professor Johnston also suggested that a short term trial (3 months) could be undertaken, eg. for tourist crashes, where police ask additional questions to get a better picture of what is causing crashes. Professor Johnston suggested that Tasmania is in a good position to work with hospitals given the size of the State and number of hospitals and that the national model will be some time away before being developed.

Paul Kingston advised that the MAIB is trying to get extra data recorded in hospitals for MAIB purposes.

6. TOWARDS ZERO STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN 2017-2019

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted progress in regard to the *Towards Zero – Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy 2017-2026* (Towards Zero Strategy) and *Towards Zero Action Plan 2017-2019* (Action Plan 2017-2019), noting that some amendments are being made following discussions with the Minister. A new document, outlining the broader road safety work program, has also been developed and will be published in conjunction with the Strategy and Action Plan. The launch of the Towards Zero Strategy, Action Plan 2017-2019 and the Road Safety Work Program is expected to be around 20 December 2016.

7. FUTURE OF THE ROAD SAFETY LEVY

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted the recommendation for extension of the Road Safety Levy, which will go to the Minister and Government shortly. It is proposed that the Levy be indexed by CPI backdated to 2011 and that future payments be prescribed in Government Fee Units. This will ensure that the Levy keeps pace with inflation and retains its real value over time.

8. PROPOSED TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW MOTORCYCLE TRAINING REGIME

DISCUSSION

RSAC noted the update provided by Martin Crane, Registrar, State Growth, in relation to the proposed transitional arrangements for the introduction of the new motorcycle training regime. The pathway to obtaining a motorcycle licence was discussed and it is proposed that, to encourage participation in the bridging course, a subsidy will be provided to those holding a learner licence prior to 1 January. A subsidy would also be provided to those who obtain a learner licence in early 2017, to normalise the cost of undertaking training. For those people obtaining a learner licence from 8 May 2017, no subsidy will be provided.

RSAC endorsed additional funding of up to \$300,000 from the Road Safety Levy, to enable delivery of these transitional arrangements.

RSAC further noted that the motorcycle rider licensing age issue has been deferred to February 2017.

Actions

- State Growth to provide a Minute to the Minister seeking approval of up to \$300,000 from the Road Safety Levy to enable delivery of transitional arrangements for the introduction of the new motorcycle training regime.
 - Motorcycle rider licensing age to be deferred to the February 2017 meeting of RSAC.
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9. MOTORCYCLE SAFETY PACKAGE – INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

DISCUSSION

RSAC discussed the need for an ongoing motorcycle safety infrastructure program and endorsed the engagement of a motorcycle safety specialist to investigate and make recommendations for safety improvements on popular motorcycle touring routes to help determine a program of works into the future. The program will continue for the life of the Towards Zero Strategy, with \$100,000 from the Safe Roads and Roadsides Levy allocation per annum assigned to improvements. Additional funding may be sought to extend the program should the need for more works be identified through the review.

Actions

- State Growth to provide an Issues Brief to the Minister seeking approval for the engagement of a motorcycle safety specialist to investigate and make recommendations for safety improvements on popular motorcycle touring routes to help determine a program of works into the future.
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10. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY PACKAGE

DISCUSSION

RSAC endorsed up to \$500,000 for pedestrian safety improvements, including installing and trialling countdown timers in five regions across Tasmania, identification and installation of shared zones in consultation with councils, reviewing and where appropriate, recommend to the Transport Commissioner, implementation of lower urban speed limits from 60 to 50 km/h, in consultation with councils and pedestrian safety awareness programs in association with RACT and other driver training organisations.

In regard to pedestrian safety, Harvey Lennon and Emma Pharo raised the issue of the need for longer crossing times for pedestrians in the Hobart CBD.

Members discussed the need for evaluation to be undertaken on the effectiveness of the countdown timers. State Growth to liaise with Emma Pharo in regard to utilising UTAS students to undertake the evaluation.

Actions

- State Growth to provide an Issues Brief to the Minister advising of initiatives to be included in the pedestrian safety package.
 - State Growth to liaise with Emma Pharo and Harvey Lennon in regard to implementation of the Pedestrian Safety Package.
 - State Growth to liaise with Emma Pharo in regard to the evaluation of the countdown timers.
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11. TOWARDS ZERO STRATEGY AND ROAD SAFETY BRANCH WORK PROGRAM 2017

RSAC endorsed the Road Safety Work Program, including initiatives under the Towards Zero Strategy, Action Plan 2017-2019 and Road Safety Work Program 2017-2019. RSAC

further noted the proposed budget to 2020 and the indicative Safe Roads and Roadsides program.

Actions

- State Growth to review the budget document to include committed funding for major policy projects.
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12. DEFERRED AGENDA ITEMS

RSAC noted the Roadside Crash Marker Program review and the motorcycle rider licensing age issue have been deferred to the February 2017 RSAC meeting.

Actions

- State Growth to list deferred items on the February 2017 agenda.
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13. ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGNS 2016/17

RSAC noted the continuation of the Back to School road safety campaign for 2016/17, the Distance makes a Difference campaign, the Tourist road Safety Strategy and the launch of the Roadside Worker Safety Campaign.

RSAC endorsed up to \$100,000 funding from the Road Safety Levy for stage 2 of the Tourist Road Safety Strategy.

In relation to the Roadside Worker Safety Campaign, RACT advised permission to display 40 km/h speed limit signage on their roadside vans and other vehicles may help in better speed compliance around these vehicles.

Actions

- State Growth to provide a Minute to the Minister seeking approval for \$100,000 funding from the Road Safety Levy for stage 2 of the Tourist Road Safety Strategy.
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14. 2016 AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF ROAD SAFETY (ACRS) CONFERENCE SNAPSHOT

RSAC noted presentation by Craig Hoey, Manager Road Safety, State Growth, in regard to learnings from the ACRS Conference held 6-8 September 2016.

15. PROGRESS REPORT: POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

RSAC noted the Progress Report to 30 September 2016, under the *Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy 2007-2016*. It was noted that quarterly reporting will be reviewed to coincide with the new Towards Zero Strategy.

16. PROGRESS REPORT: EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT SUB COMMITTEE

RSAC noted the Education and Enforcement Sub Committee's progress report. Paul Kingston advised a new inattention/distraction campaign is currently being developed, for release in January 2017.

17. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was raised.

18. 2017 MEETING DATES

RSAC endorsed the meeting dates for 2017:

- Meeting 27: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Tuesday 21 February 2017
- Meeting 28: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Tuesday 16 May 2017
- Meeting 29: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Tuesday 22 August 2017
- Meeting 30: 9:00am – 1:00pm, Tuesday 21 November 2017

All meetings to be held in the 11th Floor Training Room, 10 Murray Street, Hobart unless otherwise advised.