

ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL  
**TOWARDS ZERO**

MEETING 52

30 MAY 2023

## **MINUTES**

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### **I. WELCOME, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

#### **Attendees**

Mr Scott Tilyard, Chair

Ms Donna Adams, Commissioner, Tasmania Police

Mr Adrian Bodnar, Assistant Commissioner Operations, Tasmania Police

Ms Michelle Harwood, Executive Director, Tasmanian Transport Association (TTA)

Ms Alison Hetherington, President, Tasmanian Bicycle Council (TBC)

Dr Ian Johnston, Road Safety Expert

Mr Paul Kingston, CEO, Motor Accidents Insurance Board (MAIB)

Mr Gary Swain, Deputy Secretary Transport Services, Department of State Growth (State Growth)

#### **Apologies**

Mr Mick Boyd, President, Tasmanian Motorcycle (TMC)

Mr Kim Evans, Secretary, State Growth

Mr Dion Lester, CEO, Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)

Mr Mark Mugnaioni, CEO, Royal Automobile Club of Tasmania (RACT)

#### **Observers**

Mr Garry Bailey, Chief Advocacy Officer, RACT

Mr Martin Crane, General Manager Road User Services, State Growth

Ms Ange Green, Manager RSAC Secretariat, State Growth

Mr Craig Hoey, Manager Road Safety, State Growth

Inspector Gary Williams, State Road Safety Coordinator, Tasmania Police

#### **State Growth presenters and new employee observers:**

Mr Alan Rushworth, Manager Road Safety Policy and Projects, State Growth

Ms Emily Studley, Policy Officer, State Growth

Mr Jimmy Collins, Policy Officer, State Growth

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### **I. WELCOME**

Scott Tilyard, Chair of the Road Safety Advisory Council (RSAC) welcomed members and observers to the 52<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Council. Apologies were noted.

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## **2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest.

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## **3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

RSAC members endorsed the minutes and noted the actions from the 28 March 2023 meeting. RSAC discussed the development of Safety Performance Indicators (SPIs) and requested that the list of SPIs and advice about the publication process for them be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. RSAC noted that the Automated Traffic Enforcement Project performance data would be presented to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting.

### **Actions**

- The list of SPIs and advice about the publication process for them be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. (Craig Hoey)
  - Automated Traffic Enforcement Project performance data to be presented to RSAC at its August 2023. (Craig Hoey)
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## **4. 2023-24 ROAD SAFETY LEVY BUDGET APPROVAL**

The RSAC noted the presentation about the 2023-24 Road Safety Levy budget by Alan Rushworth. RSAC noted expenditure for the 2022-23 financial year, the anticipated budget requests for the 2023-24 financial year, the proposed 2023-24 budget and the forward revenue and expenditure projections for 2023-24. RSAC endorsed the proposed budget, by theme, for the 2023-24 financial year and the funding of identified budget requests. It was noted that the funding for Railton Main Road and Evandale Road would be paid out of 2022-23 funds.

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## **5. INDEPENDENT ADVICE ON POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL MID-TERM REVIEW INITIATIVES**

RSAC discussed the presentation on the Mid-term Review possible additional initiatives arising from the Legislative Council Select Committee Inquiry into Road Safety in Tasmania, the RSAC road safety forums, recommendations for which the Minister has asked RSAC to seek independent advice and responses from members to the government recommendations. RSAC workshopped the questions for which independent advice will be sought.

The Road Safety Branch (RSB) will finalise the questions based on RSAC discussions and provide the questions and a recommendation for going forward to RSAC out-of-session to allow for procurement of the independent advice to occur as soon as possible.

### **Actions**

- The Road Safety Branch to finalise the questions based on RSAC discussions and provide the questions and a recommendation for going forward to RSAC out-of-

session to allow for procurement of the independent advice to occur as soon as possible. (Craig Hoey)

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## **6. EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE BUDGET APPROVAL**

RSAC's Education and Enforcement Sub-Committee 2023-24 budget, funded by the MAIB, was approved by RSAC. This includes \$1,455,226 for the administration and public relations, public education and research component of education funding managed by State Growth. It also includes \$2,985,410 for enforcement activities managed by Tasmania Police, including a carry forward of \$200,000 for ANPR and SAMP equipment. RSAC also discussed sponsorships under the public education budget allocation.

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## **7. 2024 AUSTRALASIAN ROAD SAFETY (ARSC) FUNDING**

RSAC noted that Tasmania will host the 2024 ARSC. Diamond sponsorship of \$150,000 is required. Funding will be provided by State Growth, MAIB and the Road Safety Levy (RSL). RSAC endorsed the \$50,000 of funding from the RSL.

RSAC discussed the resources and expertise that will be required to support and manage the Scientific Committee (review of 300 abstracts, 150 papers and presentations) and two organising committees.

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## **8. RULE 79A – EVALUATION AND FUNDING FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN**

Rule 79A of the *Road Rules 2019* came into effect in Tasmania in August 2022. The amendments:

- Require drivers to slow to 40 km/h when passing stationary or slow-moving roadside assistance vehicles displaying a flashing yellow light.
- Clarify that on high-speed roads (above 80 km/h), drivers must slow to 40 km/h when passing emergency service, enforcement and roadside assistance service vehicles displaying a flashing red, blue, magenta, or yellow light or sounding a siren, unless it is not safe to do so. If it is unsafe to slow to 40 km/h in these circumstances, drivers must slow down as safely as they can.
- Create specific offences for contravention of rule 79A

RSAC noted that the evaluation of the campaign to support the rule change showed that the campaign was less effective than hoped, with only 13 per cent of respondents able to recall the campaign without prompting, 56 per cent prompted. RSAC noted the complexity of the messaging associated with the rule change. RSAC endorsed a further \$130,000 for a further burst of the campaign in August, utilising different channels, including advice being distributed with registration renewals.

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## **9. ROAD SAFETY PENALTIES REVIEW**

RSAC noted that the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport requested a review of infringement penalties relating to four of the fatal five driver behaviours. RSAC considered the proposal to amend monetary penalties for illegal phone use, seatbelt non-compliance, registration and speed offences based on 90 per cent of the average of other states and territories to ensure parity with other jurisdictions. RSAC discussed the deterrence effect of the likelihood of being caught versus higher fines for wrongdoing. Council noted there is good evidence for a deterrent effect created by an increase in the certainty of punishment. It was also noted that the evidence of the deterrent impact is very much less clear cut for increases in punishment severity. RSAC considered the proposal to raise monetary penalties and agreed to provide advice to the Minister that penalties should not be raised at this time, instead this should be deferred and reconsidered after evaluating the effects of the new automated traffic enforcement program.

### **Actions**

- State Growth to advise the Minister that penalties should not be raised at this time, instead this should be deferred and reconsidered by RSAC after evaluating the effects of the new automated traffic enforcement program. (Craig Hoey)
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## **10. TOURIST ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY – AUDIT OF VISITING DRIVER/RIDER COLLATERAL**

At its 28 March meeting RSAC requested an audit of collateral as part of the consideration of the proposal to reduce funding to tourist initiatives and to re-allocate the funding to initiatives with budget pressures under the Mid-term Review.

RSAC noted a scaling down of the strategy maintaining existing signage, particularly at gateways and distribution of materials on request. Funding will be reduced to \$150,000 per annum going forward, with materials provided on an ad hoc basis on request. There is currently no activity in the new to Tasmania target group (seasonal workers) group, but activity continues for international tourists and interstate motorcyclists. An audit of collateral has been undertaken and there is sufficient collateral for the current distribution approach.

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## **11. AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT PROJECT (ATEP) UPDATE**

RSAC noted the update regarding the ATEP. Currently there are 10 speed cameras operating, delivering a minimum 25,000 speed enforcement hours per annum. This is expected to increase to 40,000 hours and 16 cameras this year. In the first six months cameras have monitored 4 million vehicles and detected over 19,000 offences. On-road testing for mobile phone and seatbelt detection cameras commenced on 21 April 2023 and the supporting 'Click.Store.Go' public education campaign has commenced to support the introduction of the cameras. RSAC discussed the priorities for the ATEP which include

speed, mobile phone and seatbelt detection, to be followed by Automatic Number Plate recognition (ANPR) detection and average speed detection.

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## **12. ATEP ADVICE – TAILGATING DETECTION TECHNOLOGIES**

RSAC noted the advice on tailgating detection technologies. Fit-for-purpose automated tailgating enforcement technology has been implemented internationally, however no examples of its use in any Australian jurisdiction has been identified. At this time, it is unclear of the road safety benefit of introducing automated tailgating enforcement in Tasmania and it is not recommended that limited government resources be directed to pursuing tailgating technology at this stage. RSAC noted that efforts should remain focused on delivering technology/initiatives with a proven history of positively impacting driver behaviour and reducing road trauma.

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## **13. LIGHT VEHICLE SAFETY STRATEGY**

RSAC noted progress on finalising the Light Vehicle Safety strategy (LVSS). An additional action item for LVSS is the investigation of a financial incentive program to assist young drivers to purchase safer vehicles. The Victorian ‘Unsafe2safe’ program trial targets young drivers from regional areas as the cohort is 15 times more likely to be killed than the state average. Participants are given \$5,000 to buy a safer vehicle. They must be the registered owner of a vehicle 16+ years with a poor safety rating of 2 stars or less. The older vehicle must be scrapped. The Road Safety Branch is looking to apply Tasmanian data to the analysis used by Victoria in developing the program.

The Keys2Drive program has been removed as an action item under the LVSS as it has been discontinued at a national level.

It is proposed that a periodic registration scheme will not proceed at this time. Instead, it is proposed a risk-based program be developed for consideration for the LVSS. This proposal will be informed by sampling the roadworthiness of the Tasmanian light vehicle fleet. A final LVSS will be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting.

### **Actions**

- A final Light Vehicle Safety Strategy to be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. (Craig Hoey)
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## **14. KEYS2DRIVE UPDATE**

RSAC noted that the Australian Automobile Association national Keys2Drive program has concluded. The RSB is considering options for the reallocation of unspent funds (approximately \$450,000) and a recommendation will be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting.

### **Actions**

- Recommendations for the reallocation of state Keys2Drive program funding of approximately \$450,000 will be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. (Craig Hoey)
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## **15. SPEED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY UPDATE**

As part of the Mid-term Review process, RSAC agreed that a speed management strategy should be the next priority under the Action Plan. Funding for resourcing has been approved by RSAC and the Minister and recruitment is currently underway. A scope of work is to be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. This may be accompanied by be a request for funding.

### **Actions**

- A scope of work for the Speed Management Strategy is to be provided to RSAC at its August 2023 meeting. This may be accompanied by be a request for funding. (Craig Hoey)
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## **16. GRADUATED LICENSING SYSTEM (GLS) DIGITAL PRODUCT**

RSAC noted that the Minister has approved funding for the GLS digital products (Plates Plus platform, driver knowledge test, hazard perception test and digital logbook app). The approval is for \$1 million funding for the additional contract period of up to three years. The contract negotiation process is currently underway with the current contract ending 21 June 2023.

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## **17. ANCAP FUNDING UPDATE**

At its March meeting, RSAC endorsed additional funding to support the ANCAP to deliver its Strategic Plan for 2023-2030. RSAC noted that ANCAP has advised it has secured funding support from all major funding bodies to enable delivery of its Strategic Plan. A funding allocation of \$90,000 from the Levy to support ANCAP has been included in the forward budget to the end of the current Action Plan under the 'Improving safety through vehicles and technology', utilising existing available funding.

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## **18. CHAIR'S REPORT**

RSAC noted the Chair's report for the last quarter.

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## **19. TOWARDS ZERO QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT TO 31 MARCH 2023**

RSAC noted the Quarterly Progress Report to 31 March 2023, under the *Towards Zero - Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy 2017-2026*.

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## **20. CORRESPONDENCE BY EXCEPTION**

RSAC noted correspondence for the last quarter.

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## **21. PROGRESS REPORT: EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE**

RSAC noted the key activities of the Education and Enforcement Sub-Committee for the last quarter, including the launch of the 'Click.Store.Go.' campaign to support the implementation of the mobile phone and seatbelt detection cameras, completion of the March 2023 pulse check, National Road Safety Week (NRSW) from 14 to 21 May 2023 and the launch of the 'Road Safety Starts with Me' campaign.

## **22. TASMANIA POLICE TRAFFIC OUTPUTS REPORT**

RSAC noted the Tasmania Police Traffic Outputs report as at March 2023.

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## **23. OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was raised.