

# Justice and Community Safety Directorate

## Road Safety

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ACT Road Safety information provided on these pages includes the [ACT Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan](#) and [Crash Statistics](#). Subsequent pages provide much more road safety information organised according to "Safe System" principles.

A safe transport system requires responsible road user behaviour, but also makes allowance for human error and recognises that there are limits to the forces that humans can withstand in a crash.

The Safe System approach relies on - [safe speeds](#), [safe roads and roadsides](#), [safe vehicles](#), as well as [safe people and safe behaviours](#).

For example, Safe People and Safe Behaviours includes safety issues for Pedestrians, Bicyclists, Motorcyclists, Young and Novice Drivers, Older Drivers, Impaired Road Users, Heavy Vehicle Safety as well as Road Safety Advertising and Brochures.

>> More information is available from the Safe System links above or the section choices to the right.

## Current News / Hot Topics:

### ACT Road Safety Report Card 2017

Minister for Justice, Consumer Affairs and Road Safety, Shane Rattenbury, has released the ACT Road Safety Report Card 2017. Information about this can be found on the [ACT Road Safety Report Card 2017 news item](#).

### -Quick reference guide to mobile phone offences in the ACT

Operating a vehicle requires your full attention. Using a mobile phone or other device while driving is distracting and extremely dangerous. ACT Policing actively targets people illegally using their mobile phones and devices while driving.

Tough new penalties now apply for texting, using social media or the internet while driving. If you're caught, you'll face a fine of \$511 and the loss of four demerit points. If you're a P plater, you could lose your licence for three months for a single offence.

The penalties for using devices while driving are (as at 1 January 2017):

Offence	Infringement	Demerit points
Driver using mobile phone for messaging, social networking, mobile application or accessing internet	\$511	4
Driver using mobile phone	\$416	3
Drive without proper control of vehicle	\$257	-

Find more information on what you can and cannot do with a mobile phone when driving, view the [Quick Reference Guide](#) [PDF 199KB].

### **Nominate a mobile road safety camera location**

Members of the public are invited to nominate locations where mobile road safety cameras could be used to help address speeding and improve road safety. The "nominate a mobile camera location" is a feature of a new road safety cameras website, which was launched by Minister for Road Safety, Shane Rattenbury on 7 September 2016.

The website aims to better engage the community in the ACT road safety camera program by inviting participation, input and feedback on the use of the ACT's cameras. This new website can be used by the public to submit suggestions for additional mobile camera sites in the ACT. All nominations will be reviewed by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate and if the site is suitable, it will be added to the list of mobile camera locations.

The website is based on the Government's very successful "[Fix My Street](#)" web form with back-end links which will direct your nomination to the relevant people within the directorate. Another key feature of the new website is enhanced information on the purpose, performance and effectiveness of the camera program, including statistical information about infringements issued at each of the camera locations.

The new website can be accessed on the [Access Canberra Website](#).

### **ACT Road Crash Report for 2015**

The Minister for Road Safety, Shane Rattenbury has released the annual ACT Road Crash Report. This year's report, which relates to the 2015 calendar year, shows that 15 people were killed and 131 hospitalised following crashes on the Territory's roads. Last year there were 7,850 reported crashes on ACT roads, which involved 15,358 vehicles and resulted in 813 casualties. The report can be downloaded

at the [ACT Crash Information Page](#).

## **New driver competency relating to vulnerable road users**

Minister for Road Safety, Shane Rattenbury, has announced the details of a new driver competency and enhanced testing of knowledge of road rules focused on how to drive safely around vulnerable road users - pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists.

This change means that a learner driver applying for a provisional licence will be required to demonstrate good observation skills, recognition and risk management and display appropriate and calm decision making to mitigate and avoid risk and harm to any vulnerable road users.

For more information please see the [New driver competency relating to vulnerable road users](#) page.

## **ACT Community Road Safety Grants program has closed**

The ACT Community Road Safety Grants program will provide funding for road safety programs and rehabilitation services, road safety education and public awareness campaigns, research, road safety audits and feasibility studies into road design and construction

Key funding priority areas of vulnerable road users, improving road safety through greater links and promotion of sustainable transport, speed management, impaired driving and incentive based schemes for improving road safety. Applications which fall under one of these strategic priority areas will be given a greater weighting than other projects.

Applications for this year closed on 15 July 2016.

For more details about the grants program, go to [ACT Road Safety Fund](#).

## **ACT Road Safety Action Plan 2016-2020**

Minister for Road Safety, Shane Rattenbury, has launched the ACT Road Safety Action Plan 2016-2020 which details the 39 initiatives the Government will deliver to help achieve Vision Zero.

[ACT Road Safety Action Plan \[PDF 2.4 MB\]](#)

## **2014 ACT Road Safety Report Card**

The ACT continues to lead the nation on road safety, as shown in the 2014 ACT Road Safety Report Card, released today by Minister for Justice, Shane Rattenbury.

The National Road Safety Strategy includes a requirement for each Minister responsible for road safety to report annually to their parliament on progress in road safety, including reporting against national performance indicators.

This year's report card is the ACT's third annual report on road safety. It is focused on the 2014 calendar year and includes performance data and information on key programs and other initiatives delivered or developed in 2014.

## **Share the Road**

"Share the Road" is a joint ACT Policing and ACT Government campaign focusing on road user behaviour affecting vulnerable road users - cyclists, motorcyclists and pedestrians.

The Share the Road campaign promotes the simple message of "Drive or Ride - same rights, same rules." It's about recognising the rights of cyclists and motorcyclists on our roads and the need for all road users to follow the road rules.

The Drive or Ride - same rights, same rules campaign will run from 1 February 2015 to 31 March 2015 and will include television, cinema, radio and digital commercials.

Motorists, think of cyclists as cars; because as far as the law is concerned, cyclists have the same right to use the road as motorists. Drive or Ride - same rights, same rules.

Cyclists have the same responsibility to follow the road rules as motorists do. Remember, Drive or Ride - same rights, same rules.

The Share the Road initiative focuses on:

- safe road behaviours for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists
- different road users travelling on roads or footpaths at opposing speeds
- courteous and respectful behaviour between road users to assist in the flow of traffic and to keep roads safe
- giving way to police and emergency services vehicles travelling with lights and sirens
- reducing the rate of injury and fatalities on ACT roads.

## **Review of the ACT Road Ready and Road Ready Plus programs (2014)**

The ACT Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020, identifies a range of measures aimed at improving road safety for young and novice drivers. One of these measures is to review the Road Ready and Road Ready Plus driver education courses.

The Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety - Queensland (CARRS-Q) was awarded the contract in mid-2013 and completed the final report in mid-2014. The review was required to assess the courses' alignment with best practice and to identify areas of the courses which need to be updated.

[Review of the ACT Road Ready and Road Ready Plus programs \(2014\) \[.PDF 1.6 MB\]](#)

### **Tailgating Costs Everyone**

The impact of tailgating on the ACT community is the focus of a new road safety campaign launched by Attorney-General, Simon Corbell, today.

Not only are rear-enders in the top three crashes for injuries, but the costs of these crashes impacts on the whole community through CTP premiums.

In 2013, there were 7,863 reported traffic crashes in the ACT which involved 15,399 vehicles and resulted in 792 casualties, including 7 fatalities and 140 hospital admissions. Just under half of all reported crashes were rear end crashes where tailgating is a major causal factor.

As part of the government's approach to this issue, a new TV commercial will be broadcast throughout October on local commercial television stations to raise community awareness of this important road safety issue.

### **Government responds to inquiry into vulnerable road users**

Attorney-General, Simon Corbell, released the Government's response to the Legislative Assembly inquiry into vulnerable road users. The Government has agreed to 18 recommendations, agreed in principle to five recommendations and noted the remaining five recommendations.

The Government has agreed to trial the recommendations to allow cyclists to ride slowly across pedestrian crossings and the minimum passing rule for overtaking cyclists.

The full Government Response can be downloaded here - [Government Response to Vulnerable Road User Inquiry](#) [.PDF 415 KB]

### **ACT Road Safety Report Card for 2013**

The ACT has the safest roads in Australia according to a report tabled in the Legislative Assembly by Attorney-General, Simon Corbell.

The [ACT Road Safety Report Card for 2013](#) [.PDF 367 KB] is the second such report second since the National Road Safety Strategy was endorsed.

### **Stop pushing the limits - ACT Speeding campaign**

The Justice and Community Safety Directorate and ACT Policing have launched a

new road safety campaign focusing on speeding.

For more information on the dangers of speeding and for more about this campaign, visit the ACT Policing website at [www.police.act.gov.au](http://www.police.act.gov.au).

## **ACT's Alcohol Interlock Program**

From 17 June 2014, legislation establishing the ACT's Alcohol Interlock Program applies in relation to drink driving offences. Some offenders, including high range and certain repeat offenders, will be required to participate in the mandatory alcohol interlock program, once they have served at least half their licence disqualification period.

Drivers in the mandatory program will also be subject to requirements to complete treatment or programs to assist them to separate drinking and driving.

Other drink driving offenders may choose to participate in the voluntary interlock program.

Drivers on the mandatory or voluntary program will be required to demonstrate a period of “clean driving” before the interlock condition will be removed from their driver licence.

[More information about the ACT's Alcohol Interlock Program.](#)

## **ACT Driver Survey for graduated driver licensing review**

The ACT driver survey forms part of the community consultation on the review of the ACT's graduated driver licensing scheme (learner and provisional licensing). The ACT graduated driver licensing review is looking into a range of options, such as minimum supervised driving hours, which are aimed at improving road safety for new drivers.

The ACT driver survey includes specific questions about graduated licensing as well as questions about the community's experiences as novice drivers. These questions are particularly relevant as research has shown that inexperience is a significant factor in the rate of novice driver crashes.

The ACT Driver Survey can be completed at Canberra Connect Shopfronts and online at [www.timetotalk.act.gov.au](http://www.timetotalk.act.gov.au) from 16 April 2014 and closes on 30 May 2014.

**NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust 2014-15 Grant Program - Call for applications now**

## **open!**

Applications are invited from individuals and organisations wishing to apply for funding for road safety related projects and initiatives from the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust under the 2014-15 Grant Program.

The Trust is jointly funded by NRMA Insurance and the ACT Government's road safety levy and its main objective is to enhance road safety for the ACT and region road-using community.

The grant application form and guidelines for applicants are available on the Trust website - [www.roadsafetytrust.org.au](http://www.roadsafetytrust.org.au) (Grant Applications section). Applications close on Tuesday, 12 March 2014.

## **Final Implementation Status Report for the ACT Road Safety Action Plan 2011-13 released**

The final implementation status report for the [ACT Road Safety Action Plan 2011-13](#) [.PDF 1 MB] is now available.

The 2011-13 Action Plan includes 62 action items which are grouped into five areas of activity - safe roads, safe speeds, safe vehicles, safe people and support measures. This report provides an update on each of these action items, as well as 2012 and 2013 crash statistics and other performance measures.

The detailed status report identifies the key agency responsibilities for each action item and provides a summary of progress to date. Colour-coded markers are used to indicate whether actions are national projects, complete / implemented ongoing programs, commenced and progressing or whether they require more attention.

## **2013 ACT Road Safety Community Survey released**

A report on the 2013 ACT Road Safety Community Survey is now available. The survey report details the results of the Government's 2013 community road safety survey which involved a telephone poll of 1,000 ACT residents who were selected using a computer based random selection of the White Pages.

The survey covered a range of road safety issues, including speeding, drink driving, driver distraction and vulnerable road users.

[2013 ACT Road Safety Community Survey \[.pdf 1.873mb\]](#)

## **"Don't let the Team Down" campaign**

New road safety commercials will appear on local television screens encouraging drivers to put away their mobile phone.

The Government's 2010 Community Road Safety Survey found that 17% of those surveyed reported using a handheld mobile phone when driving - with 5% of these drivers stating that they do this all the time.

The campaign includes two separate television commercials which feature a rugby and a cricket match that are lost by a player who is distracted by their mobile phone.

### **Past News Items:**

This summer the Kings Highway Partnership\* urges all drivers to take care if driving interstate during the holiday season. Interstate road conditions can vary dramatically, particularly if the weather conditions change.

Speed, especially on unfamiliar roads raises risks to the safety of all travelers.

Speed is not the only factor affecting road safety. Drink driving and Fatigue are also factors. If planning a celebratory drink over the holiday season, remember to arrange alternate transport so that you will not be tempted to drive, and if travelling any significant distance remember to rest well before the trip, and take a break every two hours or share the driving if possible.

Alert, focused and careful drivers will help keep themselves and other travelers safe.

So, if the roads are wet, if it is difficult to see clearly, please slow down, obey the speed limit and advisory signs and drive to the road conditions to arrive safely.

\*(The ACT Government through the JACS Road Safety Unit is an active member of the Kings Highway Partnership, with other members drawn from ACT and NSW Police, regional Council and road authority representatives and the NRMA-ACT Road Safety Trust.)

[Cross Border Travel - Bright Idea](#)

### **Point-to-Point Cameras Commence Operation**



The ACT's first point-to-point safety cameras on Hindmarsh Drive (between Tyagarah Street, O'Malley and Dalrymple Street, Red Hill) commenced operating from 27 February 2012.

Infringements for speeding offences were be issued from this date.

Point-to-point cameras have shown to be effective at reducing speeds and serious crashes in jurisdictions where they have been installed.

The introduction of point-to-point cameras complements existing approaches to speed limit enforcement under the ACT Road Safety Strategy, including targeted police campaigns.

[>> Read More](#)

### **Mandatory Alcohol and Drug Awareness Course for drink and drug drivers**

ACT drivers who are convicted or found guilty of a drink driving or drug driving offence committed on or after 25 November 2011 will be required to complete a mandatory alcohol and drug awareness course in order to regain or retain their driver licence.

[>> Read More](#)