Road safety review needs to deliver benefits

The State Government’s review of road safety in Western Australia, due to be completed this month, should deliver a whole-of-government approach and accountability to save lives on WA roads, according to the RAC.

RAC General Manager Corporate Affairs, Will Golsby, said the review, headed by former public servant Peter Browne, had the opportunity to increase transparency and accountability for the way road safety-related agencies operate in this State.

“In 2012 the RAC released a discussion paper that canvassed a number of options for reform of the current system which has been in place since the late 1990s,” Mr Golsby said.

“With increased funding flowing into the Road Trauma Trust Account the RAC would like this review to guarantee independence of advice to government on how to effectively spend the Road Trauma Trust Account funds.”

Improvements to road safety governance in Western Australia can be achieved by either strengthening the current model or adopting an alternative model or process.

The review was an election commitment from the State Government and the Government now needs to ensure the review findings are made public.

The RAC’s 2012 discussion paper on Road Safety Reform sought to generate a debate on how to reinvigorate road safety structures in Western Australia.

The paper acknowledged the successes to date of the road safety community but noted that road safety policy development and delivery needed to remain relevant, efficient and effective. The discussion paper can be found on the RAC website.

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