



ACT AUDITOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE



## MEDIA RELEASE

PA08/14

1 May 2009

### Performance Audit Report

### Agency Implementation of Audit Recommendations on Road Safety

The Auditor-General, Mrs Tu Pham, has today presented a Performance Audit report titled **Agency Implementation of Audit Recommendations on Road Safety**, to the Speaker for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.

This performance audit assessed whether the Department of Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) had addressed recommendations and findings from the Auditor-General's 2006 Road Safety audit report.

#### Audit Opinion and Key Findings

Overall, TAMS made mixed progress in implementing recommendations from Performance Audit Report No. 4 of 2006, *Road Safety*. The Department implemented four of the seven recommendations made in this report, and partially implemented two others.

TAMS had included recommendations not fully implemented in its current Road Safety Action Plan to be actioned.

There had been slow progress towards addressing safety issues relating to learner motorcyclists and repeat offenders.

Findings included:

- TAMS has developed and implemented an action plan for the implementation of audit recommendations. To monitor the progress of the action plan, TAMS formed a road safety liaison framework, involving relevant stakeholders such as the Australian Federal Police and the National Roads and Motorists' Association (NRMA).
- The creation of the Road Safety Unit by TAMS provided a centralised and more efficient management of road safety issues.
- The cross-border road safety campaigns to address interstate casualties had been strengthened, but it was uncertain whether TAMS achieved its intended outcome as there was no target to reduce interstate accidents that involved ACT drivers.

- A random sample review of Accredited Driving Instructors (ADI) audits indicated that all ADIs are now audited more than once every six months.
- TAMS has made little progress in addressing issues identified with motorcyclist safety while the number of motorcyclist deaths in Australia has steadily increased over the last five years. A review of ACT licensing, training and testing requirements for novice motorcycle riders was an action item in the ACT Road Safety Action Plan but had not yet commenced.
- None of TAMS' current initiatives will result in all novice drivers completing a driver attitude and awareness course before a full licence is granted.
- TAMS investigated, and decided not to proceed with, the introduction of a speed awareness course as compulsory remedial training for serious offenders.

## **Recommendations**

The audit made four recommendations to further improve TAMS' implementation of the original audit recommendations. TAMS agreed or agreed-in-part to all recommendations.

## **Further Information**

For further information, please contact Rod Nicholas, Director, Performance Audits and Corporate Services on 6207 0833. Copies of the report are available from the ACT Auditor-General's Office (Level 4, 11 Moore Street, Canberra City) and from its website, [www.audit.act.gov.au](http://www.audit.act.gov.au).