

## **Motorcycle Reference Group Meeting Report**

### **Ebi Lux - 07 April 2016**

Today's MRG meeting was mainly a reporting forum by various DPTI groups involved in Motorcycle Road Safety.

Lane Filtering is back on the political agenda with the RAA having completed a 500 person survey of motorist's reaction to slow speed filtering. In general the responses were positive with plans now to target motorcyclists in a similar survey. Committee consensus was that filtering should proceed and that the proposal be presented for ministerial consideration.

Motorcycle accident statistics were presented with figures for 2015 being preliminary and subject to variation. The positive news is that figures trending downward over the five year period to 2015 whilst motorcycle numbers have been increasing dramatically. On the negative side motorcycle accident statistics have been trending upwards as a proportion of total accident statistics. It must be noted that this analysis does not in any way apportion or imply blame.

The most interesting report was the Road Safety Audit report conducted throughout the Adelaide Hills. Many faults identified have been corrected including repositioning of corner chevron sign, replacement of fixed guide posts with flexible posts, replacement of fixed guide reflectors atop W-Beams with flexible reflectors. The MRA questioned whether consideration had been given to additional protection on the top of W-beam support posts as these protruded by an average of 50mm above the beam. This was taken as an action point for further investigation.

Helmet legislation and the revised Riders Safety Handbook are now works in progress pending finalisation.

The Returning Riders Training course drew a lot of criticism due to departmental inactivity in publicising the course. There are many options available to Ridersafe to promote the course such as mail inserts, social media, club websites to promote the course but to date non have been used. Ridersafe advised that should any club wish to organise a group to attend such a course, they will be given due consideration and preference for course times and availability.

### **Other Business**

The research programme conducted by Drs Liz de Rome and Chris Hurren into safe riding gear was discussed at length with the intention of SA contributing to the project where possible. Most representatives around the table had a clear and concise understanding of the research being undertaken and the value a rating system would add to the choices made by Motorcyclists at the time of purchase. As the MRA representatives had the advantage of having previous lengthy discussions with the researchers, we were vocal in support of the project and in correcting some misinterpretation of information presented to the forum.

On a very positive note we are pleased to be able to report that senior members of the SAPOL Traffic division are also motorcyclists and as such are keen to do everything within their capability to reduce road trauma.

Ebi Lux, RSO and Vice President, MRASA