

## Media release Tuesday, 29 June 2021

### RACT supports push for Legislative Council inquiry into road safety

The RACT strongly endorses a motion by Legislative Councillor, the Honourable Rosemary Armitage MLC, to hold a Parliamentary Inquiry into road safety in Tasmania.

RACT Group CEO, Mark Mugnaioni, said it was vital to shine a light on road safety in the State.

“Between 2011 and 2020, 321 lives were lost on Tasmania’s roads. As a community, we need to work together to make our roads safer,” Mr Mugnaioni said.

“Each of the 321 fatalities represents a family torn apart, a community devastated, an empty chair at the table on Christmas Day and a lifetime of heartache for those left behind.

“In recent years we’ve seen massive investment in our roads by all levels of government, changes to the driver training process and with modern technology our cars are now safer than they have ever been. The Tasmanian Government has also worked hard to make our roads safer.

“Yet, in spite of that the number of serious and fatal crashes on our roads remains stubbornly high. We need to ask why and an inquiry will help us find the answers.

“We need fresh thinking and new ideas if we are going to create the change our community deserves and if this inquiry goes ahead, that’s what we are hoping it will produce. It’s time to take a no blame approach and set the challenge together to do better to keep our community safe.

“This issue transcends politics. We strongly call on all members to support this inquiry and we ask that every level of government participate in finding a new way forward.

“RACT will always advocate for improved road safety on behalf of our over 209,000 members and the Tasmanian community more broadly. We take this issue incredibly

seriously and we would welcome the opportunity to work closely with the Legislative Council and the Tasmanian Government to improve road safety in the State.

“I would like to acknowledge the strong leadership that Rosemary Armitage has demonstrated on this issue and congratulate her for calling for this inquiry. We encourage all of her colleagues in the Legislative Council to support this motion and we look forward to making a submission in due course should the motion be agreed to.”