

ACRS ACT Chapter Chapter Meeting Minutes

Time 4PM AEST (ACT Time)
Monday 25/5/26 Via Zoom

Attendees:

Leanne Woolfe
Rod Katz
Cecily Michaels
John Ryan
Belinda Owen
Kate Beck
Hooman Alenoori

Apologies:

Lauchlan McIntosh
Amanda George
Frances Stanford
Oleksandra Molloy
Lesa O'Leary
Andy Hughes
Jen Woods

1. Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Quorum

Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of last meeting

- Action items: None outstanding

3. Matters for Discussion

Rod outlined discussion items across two main groups; firstly, ACT Government initiatives and secondly; other issues related to the ACRS activities and governance.

3.1 ACT Government initiatives

3.1.1 The ACT Government released the ACT Road Safety Framework 2026-2031 ([link here](#)) on 17/5. Belinda briefed the meeting on the release of the Framework and its priorities. Some of the key features are the alignment with the safe system approach and adoption across all relevant ACT directorates to offer a coordinated plan. The Framework includes immediate, short term, medium term, long term and ongoing actions. Immediate actions include development of a Dashboard and that is a current focus in conjunction with data experts within government.

3.1.2 At the same time as the release of the Framework, it was announced that the ACT Road Safety Grants Program would not be going ahead in 2026. Belinda explained that this is because there is a current evaluation of the Road Safety Fund underway and the outcomes of that evaluation, along with the new Framework, will be incorporated into the Guidelines for the next grant round.

3.1.3 There was a recent formal announcement of the projects funded under the Federal Black Spot funding program. Hooman noted the 17 projects funded for the period to FYE27 have been costed at \$6.7m and that the Black Sport program has seen a significant increase in funding reflecting previous underspends and a renewed focus on the program. Discussion included how projects are selected and how progress has been made in identifying the benefits of projects using tools such as safety audits.

3.1.4 Cecily noted the Federal Government's announcement of additional funding for active travel infrastructure in the Budget and welcomed the increased investment, while acknowledging that funding remains modest relative to expenditure on major road projects.

3.2 ACRS matters

- Polling for the rebranding proposal finished today. At the time of the meeting, the results of the polling were not known. Rod said that he would note the outcome of the poll in the minutes.
- Awards: Rod noted that the ACRS has opened nominations for awards and asked whether there were worthy candidates, in particular for the road safety in journalism award. One possibility would be the recent series run in the Canberra media involving stories of victims of road trauma. Belinda gave some background to that series; an output of an ACT Road Safety Grant (see [here](#)). No other candidates were identified.
- ARSC: Rod noted that planning for the Sydney ARSC is well advanced with the Keynote speakers confirmed and much of the social program in place. Discussion around the possibility of Canberra being host of the 2027 ARSC and noted that we have written multiple times to the office of Minister Cheyne and, as yet, have not received a reply. We will be writing again in the next day as a response is now required urgently in order to put arrangements in place.
- Enforcement forum with a focus on e-device safety: It was noted that our proposal to cohost a forum on enforcement has been declined. Given recent reporting, this appears to be a problem that is not going away.
- Governance issues: Rod noted that we have not had a formal chapter AGM in 2026. The imperative for an AGM has reduced as a result of the centralisation of accounting functions. However, it would be desirable to have some formal appointment process and we should have a sign off on the Chair and committee roles at the next meeting – preferably in a face-to-face format.

4. Action items:

- Provide an update on rebranding
- Identify a nomination process for committee positions

5. Next Meeting

Next meeting proposed for 22/7/26.