



## ABORIGINAL ROAD USERS

Increasing the number of Aboriginal people who obtain, as well as retain, their driver's licence through participation in driver licensing initiatives and the use of dedicated learner resources is a useful beginning to addressing the over representation of Aboriginal people involved in crashes. Encouraging an improved culture of road safety is also important. Aboriginal people make up 1.5% of the State's population but on average account for 4.5% of road deaths, this is three times the road fatality rate for non-Aboriginal people.

Significant numbers of Aboriginal crash casualties are vehicle passengers, and factors for this include failure to wear seatbelts, travelling in the rear of utilities or trucks and over-crowding of vehicles. Also, almost as many Aboriginal pedestrians as drivers are admitted to hospital each year.

Infrastructure treatments such as road sealing and maintenance within and around Aboriginal communities, together with improved road signage, help reduce road trauma for all drivers.

Providing education, training and child restraints in remote Aboriginal communities has been successful in reinforcing consistent and positive road safety messages.

The South Australian Road Safety Action Plan 2013-2016, developed in consultation with the Road Safety Stakeholder Reference Group, has identified the following priority actions to address road safety issues impacting on Aboriginal road users.

### Key actions:

#### Investing in safer roads

- > Upgrade roads in the APY lands to improve access and safety. (DPTI)

#### Creating safer communities and neighbourhoods

- > Create safer neighbourhoods and pedestrian friendly streets with lower vehicle travel speeds. Implement the online 'Living Neighbourhoods' resource and develop tools for local government to implement concepts from the 'Streets for People' Compendium. (DPTI, LG, Urban Renewal Authority, Heart Foundation)

#### Improving the licensing system

- > Deliver and evaluate culturally appropriate driver licensing demonstration projects in remote Aboriginal communities. (DPTI)
- > Make changes to the licensing system based on overcoming known barriers and taking into account the evaluation of demonstration projects to achieve equitable outcomes for Aboriginal people. (DPTI)
- > Develop a supportive framework that increases the capacity of Aboriginal communities across the State to actively participate in the licensing system. (DPTI)

#### Better informed communities

- > Continue to deliver child restraints and promote their use to all communities in the APY Lands along with information and training about correct installation. (DPTI, Australian Red Cross)