



Media release
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RACT's plea to Tasmanians – let's all get home safely
National Road Safety Week

The RACT is pleading for the state's road users to change their attitudes and behaviours which have contributed to 281 road fatalities and serious injuries last year alone.

Group CEO, Mark Mugnaioni said above all else, making sure Tasmanians return home safely whenever they set out on the state's roads should be everyone's priority – from government to the individual.

"Today, we are paying respects those who have lost their lives or have been involved in serious crashes in Tasmania in the past year.

"We want to remind the community that no matter how long or short your drive is, when you set out for a journey on the road the most important thing is that you get to your destination safely," Mr Mugnaioni said.

"So far this year, 26 Tasmanians have lost their lives on the road compared with 10 this time last year, which is a devastating statistic in need of urgent address.

"Even one road death is one too many, and it's incredibly frustrating to know that in the majority of cases the outcome could have been different had everyone in the situation avoided the fatal five road behaviours.

"What these figures show is that a holistic and systematic approach is clearly needed to make Tasmania's roads safer for all.

"We are eagerly awaiting the findings of the Legislative Council's Road Safety in Tasmania inquiry, which should serve as the blueprint for badly needed investment and next steps.

"This includes investment in safer roads, safer cars, improved enforcement and making road safety a community-wide responsibility.

"However, perhaps the most important aspect of road safety is changing the attitudes and behaviours of the people that use our roads through education and training around the Fatal Five.

"Having the safest roads and the safest cars are important tools in road safety, but if people aren't willing to exhibit safe behaviours, then we cannot achieve a reduction in deaths and injuries.

“We urge Tasmanians to always take accountability for the role they play in keeping each other safe on our roads.

“We can all do this by observing the speed limit and driving to the conditions, paying attention and leaving your phone alone, never drinking and driving, wearing your seatbelt and not driving when fatigued.

The Fatal Five road behaviours which Tasmanians need to work together to eliminate are:

- **Speeding**
- **Intoxication**
- **Failure to wear a seat belt**
- **Driver fatigue**
- **Driver distraction**