

Channel Highway [Margate-Oyster Cove] Reference Group – Terms of Reference

The Reference Group has been established to allow State and Local Governments to investigate the function and performance of the Channel Highway [Margate-Oyster Cove] with respect to current and future needs.

The Group:

The Group will be chaired by a Kingborough Councillor.

The Group will comprise:

- one technical (traffic) and one planning officer from the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources (DIER);
- one technical (traffic) and one planning officer from Kingborough Council; and
- two Councillors (including the Chair) from Kingborough Council.

Objectives:

To report on the current performance of the road.

To provide an assessment of the likely continuing performance of the road.

To make recommendations for relevant improvements that will deliver identifiable benefits and give priority to road safety, efficiency and reliability.

To provide relevant input into the review of Kingborough Council's Planning Scheme.

Principles:

Recommendations will be developed recognising that users of the road, including those residences and businesses with direct access, have a vital role to play in the ongoing performance of the road, particularly with respect to safety.

Recommendations will be developed according to evidence-based research to deliver identifiable benefits.

Recommendations will align with State transport objectives and priorities.

Strategic Context:

The section of the Channel Highway under consideration:

- is classified as a Category 3 Regional Access road in the Tasmanian State Road Hierarchy;
- currently carries approximately 8,000 vehicles per day;
- has 4 speed zones:
 - 80 km/h posted limit between Margate and Snug – approximately 4.0km;
 - 60 km/h posted limit through Snug – approximately 0.9km;
 - 80 km/h posted limit between Snug and Lower Snug, approximately 450m south of Davies Road – approximately 1.2km;

- 90 km/h default limit (KISS trial) between Lower Snug and the junction of Nicholls Rivulet Main Road at Oyster Cove – approximately 3.4km; and
- services an expanding residential and commercial community.

Scope:

Section of road under consideration:

- from:
 - Southern end of the 60 km/h town speed zone of Margate (\cong 200m south of the intersection with Van Morey Road) [A0155 18/0.95];
- to:
 - Junction of Nicholls Rivulet Main Road at Oyster Cove [A0155 18/10.4];
- total length approximately 9.5km.

DIER will provide the technical expertise for the collection and analysis of data regarding the road's:

- crash history;
- speed regimes;
- cross section and alignment;
- road standard / capacity; and
- conflict points.

Other issues to be considered are:

- access arrangements and controls;
- side-road junctions;
- adjacent land use; and
- recommendations from the Coroner's inquiry into the fatal crash of 9 January 2010.

Output:

The Group will produce a report with recommendations for the Minister by 30 June 2010.

Communications and Consultation:

All communications regarding the Group's workings, interim findings, report and recommendations will be agreed by the Group before being published.

Mechanisms for communication (e.g. website) will be agreed by the Group.

The community and key stakeholders will be advised of the formation of the Group and its objectives.

The Minister will release the report and any recommendations for public comment, with the mechanisms for receipt and analysis of public input to be agreed by the Group.