

# Safe System News

TOWARDS ZERO



getting there together

## Local Government safe system survey results



*Thank you to the 69 Local Governments that completed the recent safe system online survey.*

*It is pleasing to see so many Local Governments taking the time to complete the survey, the results of which showed a strong interest in implementing the evidence based safe system approach to address road trauma in their communities.*

*Overall, the survey results indicate an interest in learning more about 'Towards Zero—Getting There Together Road Safety Strategy 2008 –2020' and its practical implications at a Local Government level. Most Local Governments also indicated at least some capacity to increase the inclusion of road safety in their plans, policies and strategies.*

*Cr Bill Mitchell AM JP, WALGA President*

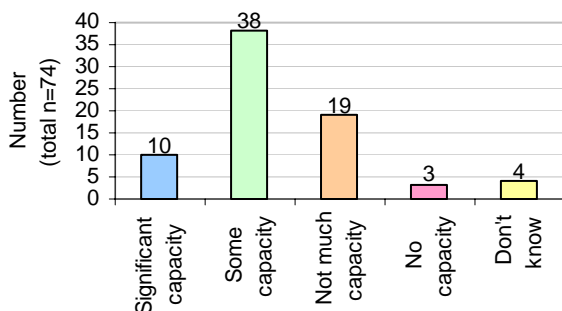
### Key survey findings:

- The attitudes and responses of the participating Local Government staff and Elected Members were largely similar.
- More than half the Local Governments who took part say they currently include road safety in any plans, policies or strategies.
- Two thirds of respondents say they have at least some capacity to increase the inclusion of road safety

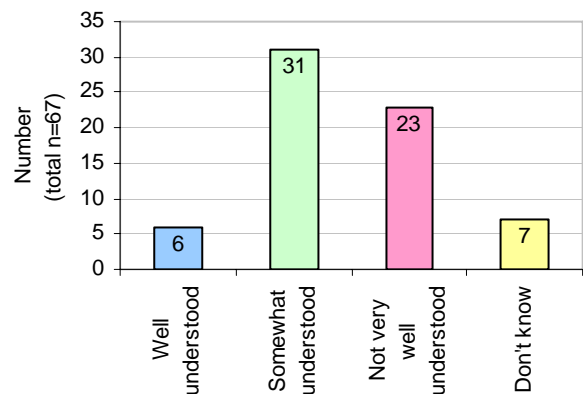
in plans, policies or strategies—contingent largely on funding and staff resources as well as education to improve staff knowledge.

- Approximately one-in-five respondents said they have adopted safe system principles in any of their plans, strategies or policies.
- Participating Local Governments most commonly rate their road safety activities as somewhat effective in terms of reducing death and serious injury.
- Many Local Government respondents (39%) said only a select few of their staff/Councillors are aware of *Towards Zero*.
- Of those staff/Councillors that are aware of *Towards Zero*, only 9% indicated that the safe system approach is well understood.

**Capacity to increase the inclusion of road safety into strategies, plans and policies among Local Government**



**Understanding of the safe system approach among Local Government**



The information collected from this survey will enable WALGA's Safe System Co-ordinators to assist Local Governments to embrace safe system principles and work towards achieving a safe road transport system for our communities.

The full report can be obtained by calling Louise Russell-Weisz or Ruth Wernham on 9213 2008.



## Baseline survey: Where to from here?

*The safe system survey benchmark results highlight an opportunity for WALGA to develop strategies which:*

- Provide assistance to build staff and Elected Member awareness and understanding of Towards Zero.
- Improve Local Government staff and Elected Members' level of knowledge and understanding of the safe system principles.
- Provide assistance to Local Governments to formalise the inclusion of road safety in strategic planning and policy.

### Safe system foundation initiatives



*Safe system foundation initiatives are essential to the successful implementation of the four Towards Zero strategy cornerstones. Foundation initiatives include partnerships and alliances, community engagement, capacity building, research and data collection, co-ordination, monitoring and reporting.*

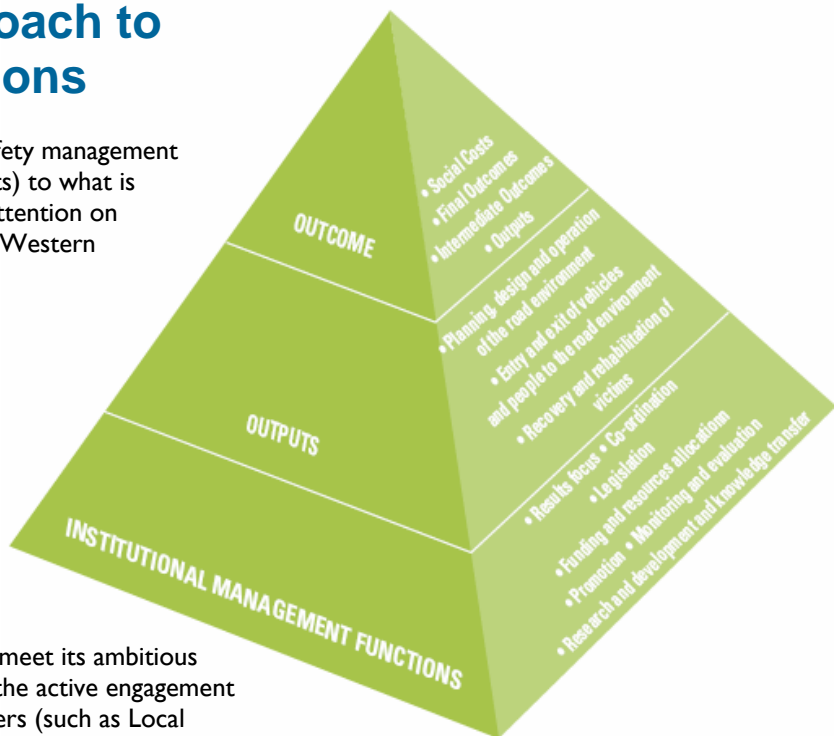
### Towards Zero's approach to safe system foundations

Towards Zero uses a results-focused road safety management system that links what is being done (outputs) to what is trying to be achieved (outcomes) to focus attention on substantial improvements in road safety for Western Australia.

Starting at the base of the pyramid (right), Towards Zero will continue to improve data collection, information management and research capacity so that the road safety problems and solutions are better understood.

Improvements in monitoring and reporting of progress will be made so that political leaders, decision makers and the community are better informed.

Moving up to the middle of the pyramid, to meet its ambitious targets (outcomes), Towards Zero will need the active engagement and contribution of the community and others (such as Local Government) who influence the planning, design, building and operation of the road environment.



The Road Safety Management System

From Towards Zero—Getting There Together Road Safety Strategy 2008 –2020

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