



**IPWEA**

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING AUSTRALASIA

Western Australia



**mainroads**  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## **IPWEA WA / MAIN ROADS WESTERN AUSTRALIA ROAD SAFETY PANEL**

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ROAD SAFETY AUDITORS**

#### **1. Preamble**

The objective of this Code of Conduct is to outline the professional and ethical standards that Accredited Road Safety Auditors and Accredited Senior Road Safety Auditors are required to meet in carrying out their professional work. It also defines the responsibilities and commitments needed to be undertaken by Road Safety Auditors to maintain the expected professional and ethical standards. Within this document, the term 'Auditor' refers to both Accredited Road Safety Auditors and Accredited Senior Road Safety Auditors.

The future and standing of this professional role depend on both technical and ethical excellence demonstrated by Auditors. It is important for each Auditor professional to adhere to the principles expressed in this Code of Conduct.

Compliance with this Code of Conduct is mandatory and there are legal ramifications should the contents of any Road Safety Audit Report be questioned, e.g. at a State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) or a District or Federal Court hearing.

Auditors who do not follow the provisions of this Code of Conduct, or engage in gross misconduct, may have their accreditation revoked by the IPWEA WA / Main Roads Western Australia Road Safety Panel upon determination by the Road Safety Panel in accordance with the Road Safety Audit Complaints Procedure approved by IPWEA WA and Main Roads Western Australia.

#### **2. General Principles**

Auditors shall always be committed to the general principles of:

- 2.1. Acting in the interest of all road users [drivers of motor vehicles (all classes), cyclists and pedestrians, including the vulnerable and the (vision and ambulatory) impaired];
- 2.2. Operating only within their field of expertise;
- 2.3. Upholding the dignity of their professional role; and
- 2.4. Not engaging in activities that could constitute a conflict of interest.

#### **3. Imperatives**

Auditors shall:

- 3.1 Place the safety of all road users and the community before all other interests;
- 3.2 Practice in a careful and diligent manner employing accepted Guidelines, Standards and Practices and shall express opinions, make statements, or give evidence with fairness and honesty and on the basis of adequate knowledge;

- 3.3 Only offer services, advise on, or undertake Road Safety Audits within areas of their own competence or, in collaboration with their Clients, ensure their team includes members with the relevant competence, technical knowledge and skills required to undertake the Road Safety Audit;
- 3.4 Ensure all team members are independent of project designs being audited in order to eliminate any conflict of interest;
- 3.5 Not conduct single person audits and/or desktop only audits;
- 3.6 Ensure that the Road Safety Audit considers other road safety issues that are likely to impact on the specific audit project, even if these are located beyond the extent (boundaries) of the section of road being audited, or beyond any scope/specification/limitation set by the Client;
- 3.7 Ensure that the audit includes a site inspection conducted in person and where practical, ensure that where relevant, the site is inspected during specific traffic conditions such as peak periods, school commencement and conclusion times and that road environmental issues such as wet, dry, day, night, sunrise and sunset are taken into consideration, even if not experienced firsthand;
- 3.8 Inform the Client of the audit team's findings and recommendations and where appropriate, the potential consequences if corrective actions are not initiated. Further, where the client is not the Road Authority or Responsible Authority and the findings identify a road safety hazard which warrants urgent attention, inform the client that they should either authorise the auditor to inform the relevant Authority or the client should do so themselves immediately;
- 3.9 Acknowledge that in the event that the contents of a Road Safety Audit are referred, for example, to the State Administrative Tribunal for a hearing, they have an overriding duty to assist the SAT/Court on matters relevant to their area of expertise, and that they shall not act as advocates for any agency, party or person/s, including those retaining their services. These are Courts of Law, and the conduct of Auditors at such hearings will be subject to the conditions set out in "[A Guide for Experts giving evidence in the State Administrative Tribunal](#)".
- 3.10 Actively seek to update and enhance their knowledge and skills in Road Safety and Traffic Engineering and related disciplines, and also on the relevant Standards and Guidelines.

#### **4. Compliance with the Code of Conduct**

As an Accredited Auditor I will;

- 4.1. Uphold and promote the principles of this Code of Conduct; and
- 4.2. Treat violation of any provision of this Code of Conduct as inconsistent with the professional and ethical standards expected of Auditors.