Notes - CTP Citizens’ Jury SRG meeting 13 September 2017

The Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) for the ACT’s Citizens’ Jury on Compulsory Third Party (CTP) Insurance met for the first time on 13 September 2017. The meeting was facilitated by democracyCo. All members were present with the exception of Lisa Holmes, representative of the CTP Regulator, who was represented by Nicole Masters, Acting CTP Regulator.

Strategy discussion
There was discussion about the roles of the Citizens’ Jury and the SRG. DemocracyCo explained that a Citizens’ Jury was recommended to consider CTP because of the complexity of the issues and there is no pre-determined Government position on the best CTP scheme for the ACT. The SRG noted the Government has committed to pursuing the CTP model preferred by the Jury on the basis that it meets the priorities developed to reflect those of the Canberra community.

It was explained that the Government invited organisations to be on the SRG and those organisations were requested to nominate a representative. The actuary and scheme design expert were selected through a tender process. The scheme design expert (Finity) noted they are also the actuary for the ACT’s CTP and workers’ compensation schemes. The SRG observed that its membership held different views and perspectives.

DemocracyCo noted the Draft Principles/Criteria for the Trial of Citizens’ Juries in the Australian Capital Territory prepared by the Canberra Alliance for Participatory Democracy (CAPaD) and the ACT Council of Social Service (ACTCOSS).

Draft Terms of Reference
Acknowledging that transparency of this process is critical to building trust, the SRG agreed that they would not have a formal confidentiality agreement. The terms of reference were amended to include sections on transparency and openness, and respect. It was agreed that should confidential information need to be shared, arrangements for maintaining confidence would be considered on a case by case basis.

DemocracyCo suggested that the SRG would work on a consensus rather than a voting basis.

Jury process methodology
DemocracyCo explained to the SRG the proposed methodology of the Jury sessions, and there was a discussion about the organisations who should be invited to appear as witnesses before the Jury. The SRG was advised that the CTP Regulator and the scheme design expert would give initial presentations to the Jury to introduce the topic and factually explain the ACT’s CTP scheme.

It was noted that material provided to the Jury will be published on the ACT Government’s website.

It was agreed that all SRG members (with the exception of the CTP Regulator, the scheme design expert and the actuary) would participate as witnesses in conversations with small groups of Jury members on the first weekend.
Individuals who have been injured in a motor vehicle accident will be invited to participate as witnesses to the Jury.

The SRG discussed possible topics to inform the selection of witnesses on the second weekend of the jury:

- Coverage and how it affects different users
- Experience/impacts on all road users including severity of injury
- What happens in other jurisdictions – what do schemes try to do / objectives; what should the goal of the scheme be?
- Efficiencies and fairness
- Fraud and impact on schemes.

It was agreed that the witness list for the second weekend of the Jury would be worked on out-of-session. DemocracyCo advised that if all witnesses proposed by the SRG can be accommodated in the Jury program then they will be. If there are too many potential witnesses, the Jury will choose the witnesses they want to provide evidence.

A further teleconference was agreed to be scheduled to finalise arrangements for SRG participation in the Jury process, the SRG forward work plan and any other outstanding matters.