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**Ministerial meeting on
public liability
insurance**

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Ministers from around Australia have agreed that pressure must be maintained on insurance companies to deliver the benefits of ongoing public liability reforms to consumers, Acting Treasurer Syd Stirling said today.

Mr Stirling said the issue was raised at the latest Public Liability Insurance Ministerial Meeting held in Sydney today.

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"At today's meeting, Ministers were also briefed by Justice David Ipp on the recommendations of his Review of the Law of Negligence," Mr Stirling said.

"The review has recommended changes to the law which are designed to impose a reasonable burden of responsibility on individuals to take care of themselves and take care of others.

"The changes are designed to strike an appropriate balance between the interests of injured people and the interests of the community at large.

"Further work will be undertaken by Treasury officials from all Australian governments to develop a list of Ipp recommendations that should be implemented on a nationally consistent basis.

"As part of that process, the Territory Government will also consider where the Ipp recommendations can be included in future NT legislation.

"A number of the 61 Ipp recommendations are already being implemented by the NT Government through the *Personal Injuries (Liabilities and Damages) Bill*, released for public comment last week and due to be introduced into Parliament later this month.

"The proposed Bill includes the imposition of caps and thresholds for general damages and links compensation for economic loss to average weekly earnings."

Mr Stirling said the momentum for reform was continuing across Australia.

"Significant progress has been made by all jurisdictions on implementing reforms, but there is still more work to be done," he said.

"The Territory Government will continue to introduce reform measures while working with other jurisdictions to develop nationally consistent reforms where possible."

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