THE APPLICANT WILL DEMONSTRATE:

1. scanning of short, middle and long distances for vulnerable road users and appropriate anticipation of their presence, needs and intentions;

2. the ability to safely navigate through areas such as school zones, aged care facilities, shared zones, group centres and town centres while observing, anticipating and responding safely to vulnerable road users;

3. anticipation of motorcyclists and cyclists at intersections including roundabouts and conducting appropriate head checks – when turning and checking of blind spots before undertaking turning manoeuvres or pulling out from the kerb and before opening the door of a parked vehicle;

4. correct response to the presence or anticipated presence of any vulnerable road user including slowing on the approach and providing sufficient distance when travelling behind a vulnerable road user; and

5. a full understanding and application of the road rules as they relate to vulnerable road users, including:
   - giving way to cyclists travelling within green lanes;
   - providing the minimum overtaking distance when passing cyclists;
   - passing cyclists only when it is safe to do so;
   - exercising caution around pedestrians and cyclists and when in slow and stationary traffic checking for motorcyclists that may be lane filtering;
   - giving way to pedestrians and cyclists at crossings;
   - giving way to pedestrians when turning into a cross street; and
   - giving way to pedestrians in shared zones.

More information can be found at www.accesscanberra.act.gov.au
WHY MAKE THE CHANGE?
Learner drivers are currently required to demonstrate a number of competencies in order to obtain a provisional or unrestricted driver licence. An additional driver competency relating to vulnerable road users has been added to the requirements. The new driver competency will improve training and assessment of learner drivers by having a greater focus on the need for drivers to anticipate the presence, needs and intentions of vulnerable road users.

Vulnerable road users is a term that refers to people who have less crash protection than occupants of motor vehicles and therefore have a higher risk of being injured or killed in a road crash. The term is generally used in relation to pedestrians, cyclists and motorcyclists. However, there are also specific categories of vulnerable road users such as children and older people, who are commonly pedestrians that need special consideration and face a higher risk. Other examples of vulnerable road users include the users of Segways, riders of animals and users of motorised scooters.

The topic of vulnerable road users is now a key focus of driver training and assessment in the ACT with corresponding changes to driver educational materials, testing, and driving instructor courses. This will see a new generation of drivers that have a greater awareness of, and sense of responsibility towards, vulnerable road users.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT A LEARNER DRIVER?
People who apply for an ACT learner driver licence on or after 29 August 2016 will be trained and assessed in accordance with a new driver competency relating to vulnerable road users. The full set of driver competencies are set out in the learner driver logbook.

WILL THE CHANGE AFFECT OTHER DRIVERS WHO ARE SUBJECT TO COMPLETING A PRACTICAL DRIVING TEST?
Yes. For other drivers who are required to pass a practical driving assessment (e.g. some overseas drivers) the new competency will apply to those who book their assessment on or after 29 August 2016.

WHAT ABOUT DRIVERS WHO ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE VULNERABLE ROAD USER COMPETENCY?
Parents and supervising drivers are encouraged to train their learner drivers in accordance with the full set of driver competencies. However, drivers who obtained a learner licence or booked a practical driving assessment before 29 August 2016 will not be assessed against the vulnerable road user competency.

COMPETENCY VULNERABLE ROAD USERS; OBSERVATION SKILLS, RECOGNITION AND RISK MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE
The applicant drives responsibly recognising the potential harm they could cause to a person who is walking or riding a bicycle or motorcycle and demonstrates an ability to communicate, anticipate, observe and recognise and respond safely to these people.

CONDITIONS
Using a wide variety of different road and traffic conditions where vulnerable road users may be encountered. For example, turning across green bicycle lanes and marked bicycle lanes, approaching and passing a cyclist on a narrow road where there is either no bicycle lane or a narrow bicycle lane, driving through slow moving and stationary traffic where motorcyclists may be lane filtering and areas where there are high numbers of cyclists and pedestrians such as shared zones, town centres, group centres, aged care facilities and school zones.

REQUIREMENTS
The applicant will, on at least one occasion (where possible) demonstrate good observation skills, recognition and risk management and display appropriate and calm decision making to mitigate and avoid risk and harm to any vulnerable road users.

The applicant will be required to perform the tasks throughout an entire assessment unaided by the licence examiner.