Queensland Road Safety Research and Evaluation Framework

Queensland
Government

Purpose

The purpose of this framework is to ensure that a strategic, future-focused approach is combined with responsive, evidence-based implementation of road safety programs and initiatives in order to achieve the Queensland Government's vision of zero deaths and serious injuries on Queensland roads by 2050.

Research is essential in order for us to make good decisions. Good research leads to new evidence, which in turn informs the policy making process.

Road safety is more than a transport problem. There are broader societal issues that influence road user behaviour that go beyond the current safe systems approach. There is also a need to measure road safety outcomes that go beyond crash data.

By understanding how road trauma poses a risk to other strategic agendas, the framework will advance positive road safety outcomes through engagement in research with a focus on solving the problem from multiple perspectives.

The framework will act as an enabler and connector for progressing the priorities identified in the *Queensland Road Safety Strategy 2022–2031* and associated action plans by building and maintaining strategic research partnerships at the state and national level.

Pillars

There are three key pillars underpinning the framework that focus on a research and translation process of discovery, translation, implementation, evaluation and impact, as follows:

Discovery and translation

Addressing fundamental knowledge gaps and translating new knowledge and innovations into novel approaches.

Implementation

Bringing new knowledge into practice and implementing new evidence to design, deliver and evaluate road safety and injury prevention programs and initiatives.

Evaluation and impact

Measuring the impact of programs and initiatives on road safety and injury prevention outcomes (lives saved and reduction in serious injuries) and driving a continuous improvement process.

Implementation

The establishment of a dedicated Road Safety and Injury Prevention Research and Evaluation Advisory Group, comprising key government road safety partners, will ensure road safety problems are considered from multiple perspectives. This will enable the development and strengthening of strategic, interdisciplinary research collaboration to identify and drive applied research relevant to addressing road safety and injury prevention priorities in Queensland and translation of the findings into evidence-based policy solutions and outcomes. This will, in turn, increase efficiency, reduce duplication, enhance innovation, build capacity and capability and provide a process to optimise research funding.

Programs of research for road safety and injury prevention, including the proposed approach, will be identified through discovery and knowledge translation, ongoing monitoring, continuous improvement activity and emerging risks. These identified research priorities will be progressed to a strategic leadership group that will be established to oversee implementation of the strategy for consideration and approval.
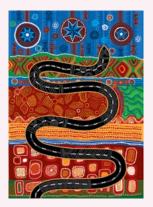
In addition, the Road Safety and Injury Prevention Research and Evaluation Advisory Group will develop a research information, management and communication process to monitor research and evaluation activity and report on progress and outcomes. The advisory group will:

- Work collaboratively to develop an integrated research and evaluation management process and methodology.

- Implement innovative approaches for research and evaluation dissemination to promote and advance research discovery and translation.

- Manage competing agendas through a process that prioritises and coordinates research to enable flexibility and responsiveness.

- Secure sustainable sources of funding for research and evaluation projects and programs and create a process for the allocation of resources.

- Reinforce and expand the fundamental culture and value of ongoing monitoring, evaluation and continuous improvement processes of initiatives that include benefits, program effects and impacts of strategic policy implementation, as well as future research program development.

Acknowledgments

The Department of Transport and Main Roads wish to sincerely thank our colleagues and key partners, the Motor Accident Insurance Commission and Queensland Police Service.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways. We also acknowledge their ancestors and Elders both past and present. The Department of Transport and Main Roads is committed to reconciliation amongst all Australians.

Travelling by Gilimbaa.
Image provided by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

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