

# Brief review of current Work Health Authority activities in relation to quad safety (2016-2022)

Farmsafe Australia Conference 2022

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# Aim

- Summarise Work Health Authority activity on quad safety issues dating from 2016 across Australia

# A Brief History (1)

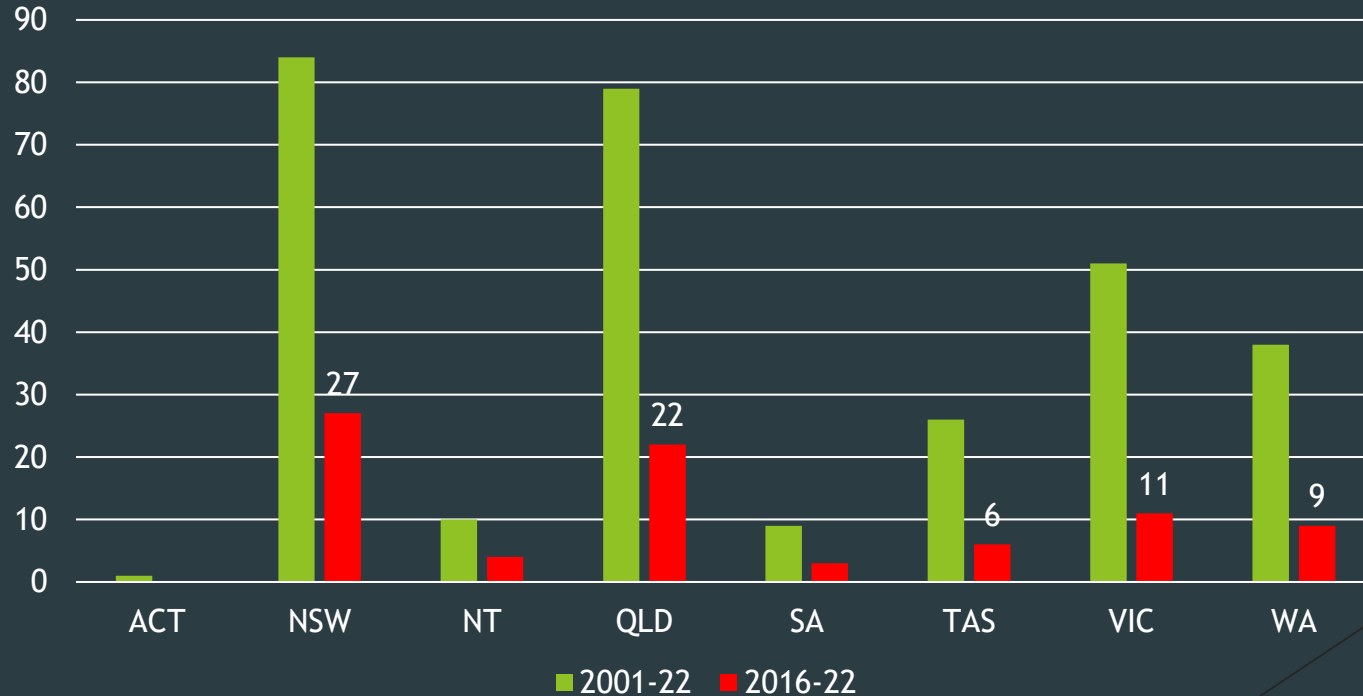
Year	Action
Late 1980's	First reported quad deaths in Australia
1997	Meeting of FCAI and ACAHS (Moree) - assessing ATV fatality data & rollovers
2003-09	Victorian Coronial Inquiry
2005	Parliamentary Inquiry into the Cause of Fatality and Injury on Victorian Farms
2007	ATV Injury on Australian Farms report released (ACAHS)
2010	ACAHS policy supporting fitment of CPDs (OPDs) released
2009-11	HWSA Quad Bike Safety committee releases national strategy 2011
2012	Safe Work Australia - Review of Design and Engineering Controls for Improving Quad Bike Safety
2013	Safe Work Australia / ACAHS - commence Quadwatch web site data portal

## A Brief History (2)

Year	Action
2012-14	UNSW study - stability, handling, crashworthiness
2014	Queensland coronial inquest
2015	NSW coronial inquest
2017	UNSW - Workplace survey results released
2017	ACCC quad bike taskforce established
2017	Tasmanian coronial inquest
2019	ACCC final recommendations to Minister
2020	Stage 1 - <u>Consumer Goods (Quad Bikes) Safety Standard 2019</u> introduced
2021	Stage 2 - <u>Consumer Goods (Quad Bikes) Safety Standard 2019</u> introduced
2022	Review of quad fatalities 2001-20 published (AgHealth)

# Deaths by State/Territory (n=298)

Data includes all deaths - work & non-work based on National Coronial Information System Data



# Method

1. Review of existing online resource materials for each jurisdiction
2. Phone interview assessing the following issues:
  - a. Specific committee overseeing quad related issues
  - b. Public media campaigns and online resource materials
  - d. Use of financial incentives and uptake
  - e. Any formal (or proposed) regulatory changes in relation to quads
  - g. Enforcement (infringement notices/prohibitions/prosecutions)
  - h. Where to next?

# Specific Jurisdictional Quad Committees

- NSW - still operational (SafeWork NSW, Department of Primary Industries - Tocal College and Local Land Services, Police, CWA, MTA, FCAI, Kids Health, ACCC, Westpac, NSW Farmers, AgHealth, Royal Flying Doctors, Australian Workers Union)
- QLD - concluded ~ 2019 (WHSQ, AgForce, FCAI, JCU, Quadbar Industries, Tourism Operator, Quad Retailer, Recreational Riders Assn)
- TAS - concluded ~ 2018 (Worksafe Tas, Safe Farming Tas, Tas Farmers & Graziers Assn, Primary Employers, Poppy Growers Assn, WiA)

# Public Media Campaigns

## Yes

- NSW - (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, helmets, kids)
- QLD - (alternate vehicles, training, loads, helmets, kids)
- TAS - (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, helmets)
- VIC - (rollover risk - alternate vehicles, OPDs)

## No

- ACT
- NT
- SA
- WA



# Online Public Information

## Yes

- NSW (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- NT (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- QLD (alternate vehicles, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- SA (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- TAS (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- VIC (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)
- ▶ WA (alternate vehicles, OPDs, training, maintenance, children, loading, helmets)

## No

- ACT (WorkSafe ACT is in the process of reviewing web content, quadbike information is anticipated to be published in the near future).

# NSW Rebates

- Total \$9.33 M to June 2023  
apply for a maximum of \$2000 for an SSV, \$600 for an OPD, \$500 for a drone, \$90 for a helmet
- Paid (Aug 2016 - 31 July 2022)  
\$8.12 M

Item	No.	Farmer Investment
SSV	4,712	\$89.4 M
OPD	1,379	\$1.27 M
Helmet	873	\$16,617
Drone (Feb 2019)	233	\$428,019
Quad Training*	1,762	
SSV Training	258	

\*1,726 helmets  
(\$8.29M)

Total \$91.2M

# VIC Rebates

- Total \$6 M to (Sept 2016 to June 2020)

apply for a maximum of \$1,200 for an SSV, \$600 for an OPD (up to 2 per business)

- Approximate split 70% OPDs / 30% SSVs - data to be finalised November 2022

(Disclaimer - information is an indication only)

# TAS Rebates

- Quads (May 2019 - Oct 2021)

claim up to 50 per cent of the purchase price, to a maximum of \$500, for an approved rollover or crush protection device, with a total of \$1,000 available for each eligible farm workplace

- Primary Producer Rebate (Oct 2021 - June 2022)

claim up to \$5,000 for the purchase of workplace safety solutions to medium, small and owner operator businesses within agriculture

Item	No.	Total Rebate
OPD	300	\$105,000

Item	No.	Farmer Investment
SSV	49	\$1.23M
OPD	83	\$80,150
Helmet	37	\$6,200
Quad Training	2	\$590

# Helmet Requirements

Jurisdiction	AS/NZS 1698:2006	UNECE22.05	NZS 8600:2002
ACT	✓	✓	
NSW	✓	✓	✓
NT	✓	✓	
QLD	✓	✓	
SA	✓	✓	
TAS	✓	✓	✓
VIC	✓	✓	✓
WA	✓	✓	

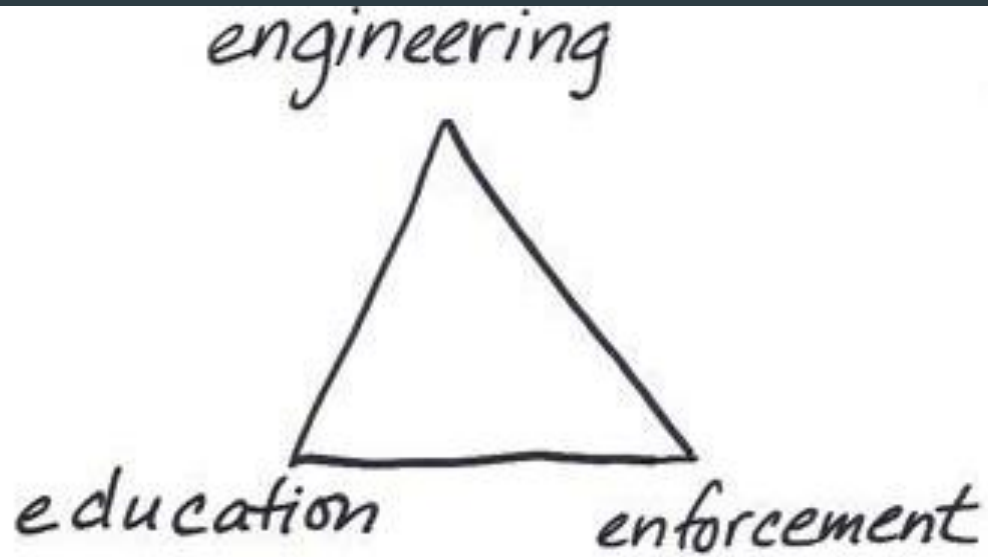
# Regulatory changes/issues

- QLD - review in progress May 2022
- Tas - updated requirements on 22 Dec 2021 - helmets, training, no passengers
- Vic - FCAI withdraw challenge to Worksafe requirements for OPDs (June 2019)
- WA - updated WHS Act 31 March 2022

# Enforcement Activities

Jurisdiction	Improvement / Prohibition Notices	Prosecutions
ACT	None	None
NSW (1 Jan 2015-19 July 2022)	59	None
NT	Not Available	Not Available
QLD	Not Many	None
SA	3	None
TAS	~10	3
VIC (1 July 2015-30 June 2022)	1,214	3
WA (1 Jan 2015-30 June 2022)	288	None

## Three E's





# Summary

- ▶ Some variation between jurisdictions in relation to:
  - Emphasis on quads (largely reflective of injury burden)
  - All endorsing alternate vehicle selection / use
  - Qld has limited advocacy for adoption of OPDs - this is not replicated in any other jurisdiction.
  - Three states - NSW, Tas, Vic have conducted significant financial safety rebate schemes
  - Requirements for helmets vary across jurisdictions - with NSW, Tas and Vic having a broader range of “acceptable” helmets
  - Enforcement activities are occurring but are limited (with exception of Vic)
  - WHS Authorities are increasingly adopting more pro-active approaches to work with farm businesses

Where to Next?