



Amy Gillett FOUNDATION
Safe together

a metre matters:

using a public policy approach to create a safe
cycling environment in Australia

Dr Marilyn Johnson, Tracey Gaudry and Dr Lyndal Bugeja
International Cycling Safety Conference
18-19 November 2014, Gothenburg, Sweden

www.amygillett.org.au



Inspired by
the life of
Amy Gillett

Cyclist fatalities nationally



- 50 in 2013
- 38 in 2014 (as at 14 Oct)



Most Australian cyclists ride with cars



?

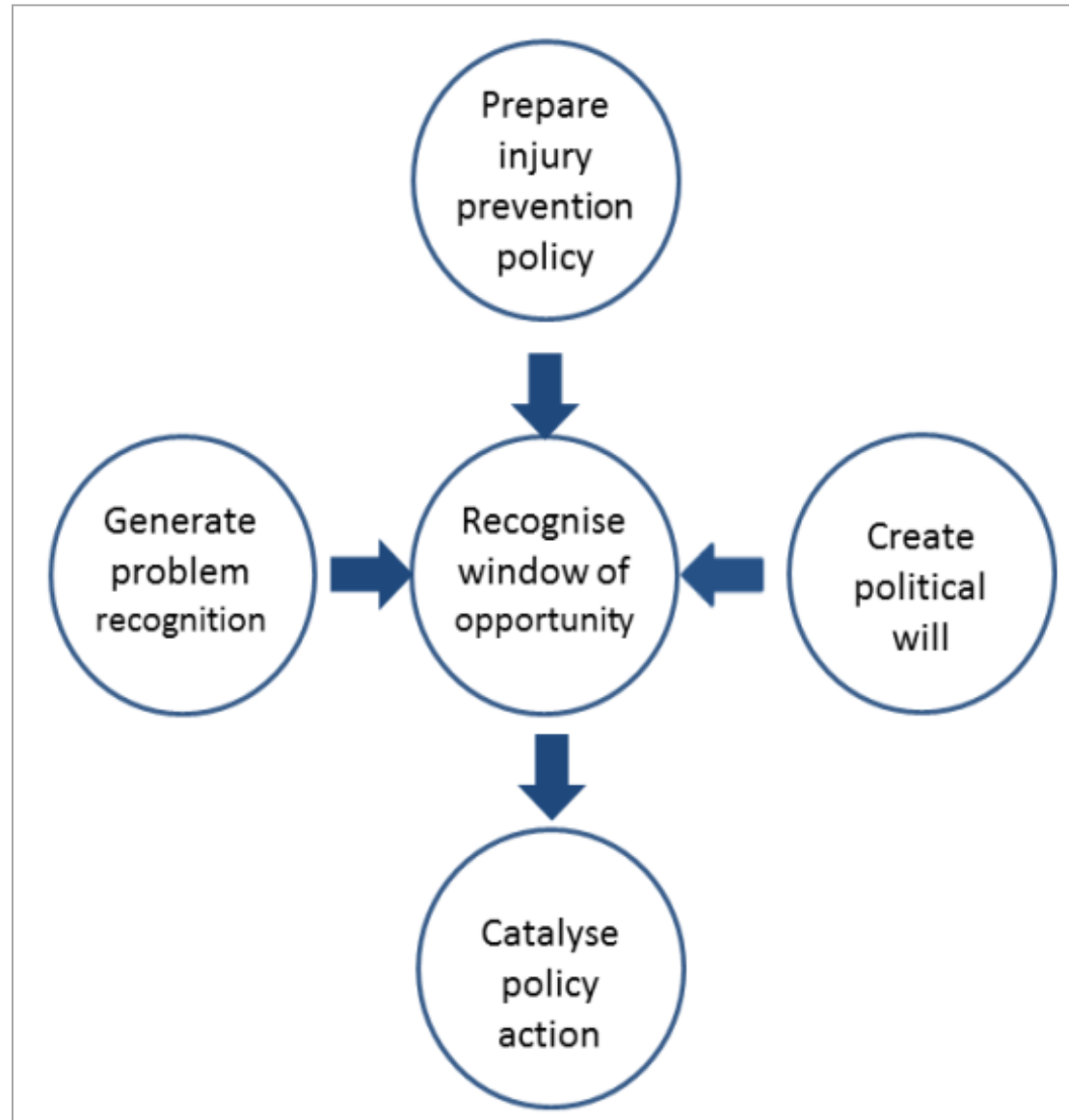
now

safe
cycling

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Theoretical framework: public policy approach to injury prevention

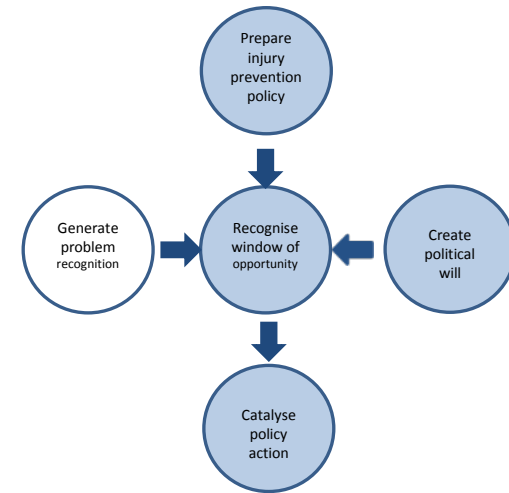


Adapted from Bugeja et al, 2011

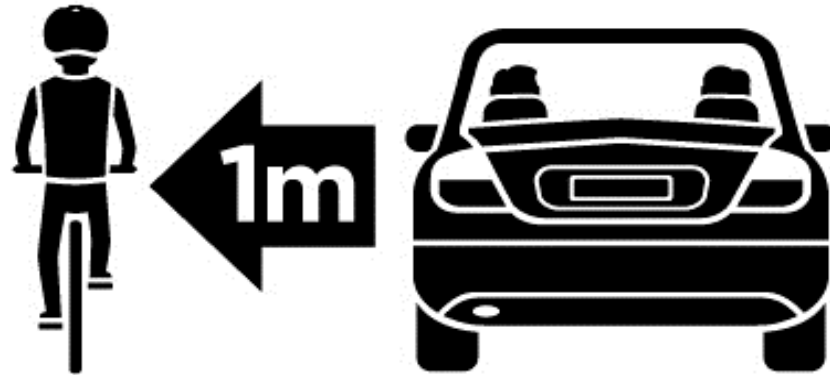


Problem recognition

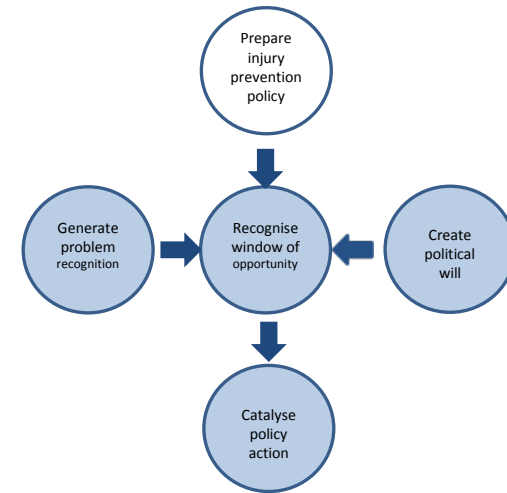
- Lateral clearance
- Legislation = vague
 - ‘sufficient passing distance’
- Education
 - Driver licence handbook

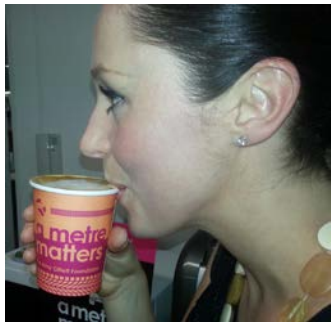


Policy



**a metre
matters**

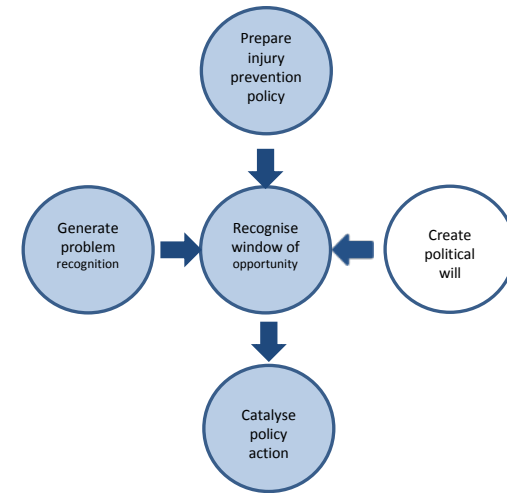






**Richard
Pollett**

Create political will



- Court finding (AGF escalation)
- Letter writing campaign (1,000+)
- National petition to federal government (29,100+ signatures)



the amendment



ARR144 Keeping a safe distance when overtaking

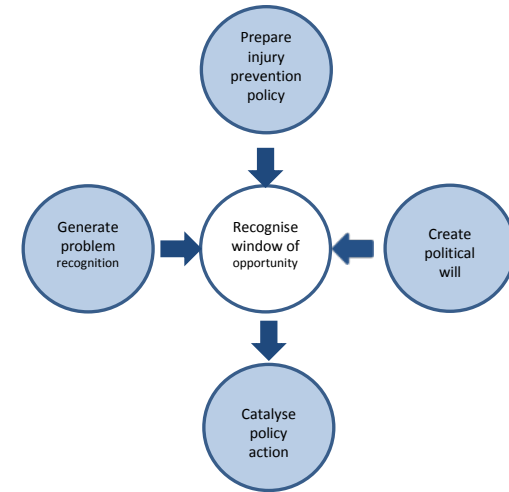
A driver overtaking a vehicle:

- a) must pass the vehicle at a **sufficient distance** to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle; and
- b) must not return to the marked lane or line of traffic where the vehicle is travelling until the driver is a sufficient distance past the vehicle to avoid a collision with the vehicle or obstructing the path of the vehicle.

Amendment – change sufficient to:

- a) A lateral distance of **not less than 1 m** if the applicable **speed-limit does not exceed 60 km/h**; and
- b) a lateral distance of **not less than 1.5 m** if the applicable **speed-limit exceeds 60 km/h**.

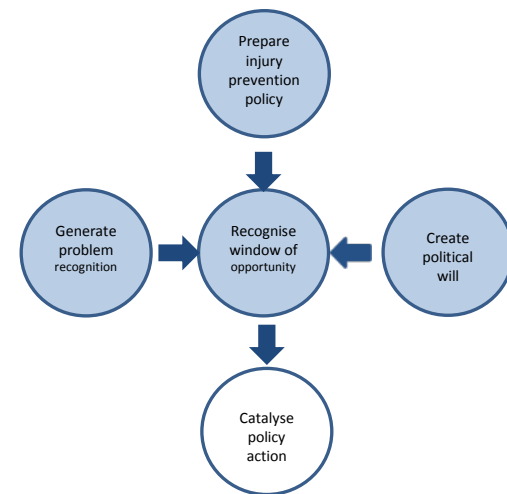
Window of opportunity



- Two Parliamentary Inquiries
 - Queensland
 - Inquiry into Cycling Issues
 - Australian Capital Territory
 - Inquiry into Vulnerable Road Users



Catalyse policy action



- Queensland
 - 2 year trial of legislation started 7 April 2014
 - Extensive awareness campaign
- Australian Capital Territory
 - Commitment to trial



“The previous road rule was very difficult to enforce, there was no objective standard for what was ‘sufficient’.

Now we have a clear cut definition.”

Sgt Ian Crang
Queensland Police Service



Conclusion

- Theoretical framework
 - important for public policy change
 - particularly in an unsupportive or indifferent environment
- Clear message, build the case
- Make action easy



Everyone has the right to ride in
safety for work, sport and play

Thank you

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