

## Queensland Government's implementation updates to recommendations arising from the *Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board 2016-17 Annual Report*

Recommendation	Agency	Implementation update
<p><b>Recommendation 1- Targeted suicide prevention framework for domestic and family violence refuges</b></p> <p>That a targeted suicide prevention framework, which accounts for the detection of, and response to, vulnerable individuals should be developed and implemented within domestic and family violence refuges by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, in consultation with relevant experts and stakeholders.</p> <p>This framework should include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the implementation of routine, evidence based, suicide risk screening at intake and provisions for timely reassessment during periods of acute crisis or elevated risk (e.g. following contact with a violent ex-partner) to ensure that responses are commensurate with risk</li> <li>referral pathways to relevant support services, and be used to inform a comprehensive safety and risk management plan for individual clients</li> </ol>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women contracted LivingWorks Australia, a suicide intervention training company, to deliver suicide awareness training for workers from women's shelters across the state. The first round of training commenced in January 2019 and was delivered through to March 2019 covering ten locations, focusing on suicide awareness. The Cairns and Mount Isa workshops specifically targeted shelter staff working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.</p> <p>Subsidies were available to support staff from women's shelters in remote locations to attend. Where possible and dependent upon demand from women's shelters, training places have been made available to workers from other specialist domestic and family violence services. The next round of training will focus on suicide intervention with ten workshops being delivered across Queensland. Training will commence in May 2019 and delivered through to June 2019.</p> <p>Following completion of the training, the department will work with the domestic and family violence sector regarding the development of a suicide prevention framework for implementation within domestic and family violence women's shelters.</p>

<p>c. suicide awareness and risk management training for staff, as well as the introduction of standardised policies and procedures that aim to support appropriate storage of, and access to, medications in domestic violence refuges.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 2a- Mandatory training of Queensland Health staff</b> That the Department of Health introduce mandatory training for staff who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence. The training should be delivered to a standard (or level) that proficiency can be measured. This should cover <i>risk screening, assessment and management processes</i>.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded: In response to the Not Now, Not Ever report, Queensland Health is implementing the domestic and family violence (DFV) toolkit of resources to support health professionals understanding, and response to clinical presentations, of domestic and family violence. The DFV toolkit is available to both public and private health professionals, including all hospital and health services. The DFV toolkit includes a face-to-face training module, two online training modules, and a number of downloadable resources that address issues related to assessing risk within the health context. Additional resources have been developed to guide health professionals' understanding of DFV information sharing and responding to presentations of non-lethal strangulation. Future training policy will be guided by Queensland Health's review of the DFV toolkit and its implementation. The toolkit will be evaluated and recommended changes and updates implemented. The toolkit will be promoted statewide.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2b- Mandatory training of Queensland Health staff</b> That the Department of Health introduce mandatory training for staff who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence. The training should be delivered to a standard (or level) that proficiency can be measured. This should cover <i>enhancing understanding of risk factors</i>.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded: In response to the Not Now, Not Ever report, Queensland Health is implementing the DFV toolkit of resources to support health professionals understanding, and response to clinical presentations, of domestic and family violence. The DFV toolkit is available to both public and private health professionals, including all hospital and health services. The DFV toolkit includes a face-to-face training module, two online training modules, and a number of downloadable resources that directly address risk factors for DFV. Additional resources have been developed to guide health professionals understanding of DFV information sharing and responding to presentations of non-lethal strangulation. Future training policy will be guided by Queensland Health's review of the DFV toolkit and its implementation. The toolkit will be evaluated and recommended changes and updates implemented. The toolkit will be promoted statewide.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 2c- Mandatory training of Queensland Health staff</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health introduce mandatory training for staff who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence.</p> <p>The training should be delivered to a standard (or level) that proficiency can be measured. This should cover <i>comprehensive discharge planning and follow up care that takes into account the safety of both self and others, including appropriate referrals.</i></p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>As per the direction provided in the DFV toolkit, clinicians in the public health system are expected to use sensitive enquiry and routine asking when discussing DFV with clients/patients/customers. Where a disclosure of DFV has been made by a client/patient/customer, health clinicians will (with consent) engage a hospital/health service social worker who will discuss support options and make appropriate facilitated referrals prior to discharge.</p> <p>Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland’s health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 2d- Mandatory training of Queensland Health staff</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health introduce mandatory training for staff who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence.</p> <p>The training should be delivered to a standard (or level) that proficiency can be measured. This should cover <i>appropriate safe information sharing in accordance with Queensland Health guidelines.</i></p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>In response to the Not Now, Not Ever report, Queensland Health is implementing the DFV toolkit of resources to support health professionals understanding, and response to clinical presentations, of domestic and family violence. The DFV toolkit is available to both public and private health professionals, including all Hospital and Health Services. The DFV toolkit includes a face-to-face training module, two online training modules, and a number of downloadable resources that that directly address information sharing to support risk assessment and management of serious DFV. Additional resources have been developed to guide health professionals understanding of DFV information sharing and responding to presentations of non-lethal strangulation.</p> <p>Queensland Health will continue to review the DFV toolkit and its implementation, which will inform future training policy and guidance.</p> <p>Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland’s health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 2e- Mandatory training of Queensland Health staff</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health introduce mandatory training for staff who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence.</p> <p>The training should be delivered to a standard (or level) that proficiency can be measured. This should cover <i>specialist non-lethal strangulation training for accident and emergency departments that aims to assist in recognition of the signs of this type of violence but also in the collation of forensic information to inform the prosecution of any related criminal charges.</i></p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>In response to the Not Now, Not Ever report, Queensland Health is implementing the DFV toolkit of resources to support health professionals understanding, and response to clinical presentations, of domestic and family violence. The DFV toolkit is available to both public and private health professionals, including all hospital and health services. The DFV toolkit includes a face-to-face training module, two online training modules, and a number of downloadable resources that succinctly and directly provide information about the signs, symptoms and risk indicators of non-lethal strangulation and that reinforces the need for good quality documentation.</p> <p>Queensland Health will continue to review the DFV toolkit and its implementation, which will inform future training policy and guidance.</p> <p>Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland’s health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 3- Enhancement of post-natal care</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health consider ways to enhance the delivery of post-natal care for all families with a focus on equipping them with the requisite skills to care for a newborn infant. The Department should also consider and incorporate intensive and robust maternity and post-natal support models of care for all high-risk and vulnerable families with a focus on continuity of care options (including midwives), the use of multidisciplinary teams to address</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>Queensland Health established a maternity services action group focused on Maternity Workforce and Models of Care. The action group developed, provided education and disseminated a Maternity Decision Making Framework for all Queensland maternity facilities to expand continuity of carer models.</p> <p>Queensland Health engaged with child health and midwifery services to develop a strategy to improve model/s of care across the first 1,000 days.</p> <p>An assessment on the impact of 100 additional midwives appointed across the state, and development of a final plan for progressing improved care across maternity and child health, are both scheduled to occur in mid-2019.</p>

<p>broader support needs, and specific interventions and support for fathers.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 4- Availability of culturally appropriate maternity and post-natal care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families</b> That the Department of Health consider ways to ensure culturally appropriate maternity and post-natal care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families are available. This should include a focus on increasing and supporting a specialist workforce in this area, and the provision of outreach support services that aim to engage with hard to reach families.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded: Queensland Health allocated more than \$7 million in 2018-19 from Indigenous-specific making tracks funding to support child and maternal health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families in both hospital and health services and the non-government sector. An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Strategy is currently in development that aims to strengthen culturally capable maternity services through continuity of midwifery care, expand the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander maternity workforce, and increase access to antenatal and parenting programs.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 5- Routine screening for DFV by obstetricians and gynaecologists</b> That the Department of Health liaise with the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists to promote routine screening for domestic and family violence, and enhanced responses to high-risk and vulnerable families in private obstetrics and health facilities.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted. On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded: The DFV toolkit includes training and resources that promote routine screening and enhanced responses to high risk and vulnerable families. Queensland Health liaised with RANZCOG through every stage of the DFV toolkit’s development. In 2016, RANZCOG representatives participated on the DFV working group that developed the DFV toolkit, and in 2017-18 on the antenatal screening working group that developed the Antenatal screening for domestic and family violence guideline that was published and promoted by Queensland Health in May 2018. Queensland Health continues to work with RANZCOG and a RANZCOG representative is currently participating on the evaluation reference group on the current process evaluation of the DFV toolkit. Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland’s health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 6- Priority alcohol and other drug treatment for high risk or vulnerable parents</b></p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p>

<p>That the Queensland Government consider ways to improve access to, and availability of, priority alcohol and other drug treatment places for high risk or vulnerable parents who may have contact with the child protection system or be experiencing domestic and family violence. This should also take into account the practical supports that parents may need, such as free access to child-care, to encourage uptake with treatment services, and aim to ensure that services are informed around the intersection between domestic and family violence, trauma and substance use.</p>		<p>As part of the 2018-19 state budget, the Queensland Government committed \$9.5 million to deliver a new 42-bed alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation and treatment facility in Rockhampton. The facility in Rockhampton will provide increased access to treatment for people 18 years and over experiencing problematic substance use living in the central region of Queensland.</p> <p>The planned facility will include 32 residential rehabilitation beds, 8 withdrawal (detox) beds, 2 family units (to accommodate parents and children) and capacity for a non-residential rehabilitation program (day program). The two-family units at the facility will be designed to provide residential treatment for families. This is to enable parents, including single parents or couples with young children in their care, to undertake intensive and structured residential-based treatment. During the program, children can either be cared for by dedicated child care workers, or attend local day care, pre-school or school during the day.</p> <p>A detailed business case is underway and construction is expected to commence in late 2020. A specialist non-government organisation will be procured through a tender process to deliver services at the facility.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 7- Routine mandatory DFV victim and perpetrator screening in mental health, alcohol and other drug services</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health implement processes for routine mandatory screening for domestic and family violence victimisation and perpetration, within all Queensland Health and government funded mental health, and alcohol and other drug services. These should be supported by clear local pathways to specialist support services and appropriate training on the intersection between domestic and family violence, mental health and</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>Queensland Health has worked with a range of clinical stakeholders to review and modify a suite of clinical documents for services. The mental health risk screening tool was reviewed and deemed to suitably acknowledge factors contributing to domestic and family violence. New resources are now under development to support the use of the clinical documents for example a user guide that will include more detailed guidance for clinicians and services undertaking risk screening.</p> <p>Queensland Health provides a range of training programs for mental health professionals and other health professionals who are seeking core mental health education. In 2019 Queensland Health is undertaking a detailed review of two courses, QC9 Critical components of risk assessment and management and QC14 Mental health assessment, providing the opportunity to include more detailed and contemporary content regarding the identification and reporting of DFV.</p>

<p>substance use which accords with the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 8- Enhanced collaboration between mental health, drug and alcohol and specialist DFV services</b>  That the Queensland Government fund and facilitate cross professional training and relationship building between mental health, drug and alcohol, and specialist domestic and family violence services to enhance collaboration, shared understandings and information sharing.</p>	<p>Queensland Health  and  Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.  On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services and the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:  The Domestic and Family Violence Workforce Capacity and Capability Building Service project, to support the DFV workforce across Queensland, is in the final stages of tender evaluation. Once established, the service will provide mental health training to the DFV workforce and will include a priority area focusing on service integration and working effectively in collaboration. The service is expected to be operational by mid-2019.  The integrated service response (ISR) trials, including high risk teams (HRTs) are continuing, with six of the eight funded HRTs becoming operational during 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. A further two HRTs will become operational in 2018-19.  Training in the Domestic and Family Violence Common Risk and Safety Framework, risk assessment tools and changes to the <i>Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Act 2012</i> around information sharing continues to be delivered in the eight locations. Queensland Health staff, including mental health and drug and alcohol service staff, participate in this training along with other participating government agencies and specialist domestic and family violence services.  The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women is actively participating in The Safe and Together Addressing Complexity (STACY) project since its commencement in November 2018. The Queensland site for this national study is Caboolture. This project aims to investigate and simultaneously develop practitioner and organisational capacity to work collaboratively across services providing interventions to children and families living with domestic and family violence and where there are parental issues of mental health and alcohol and other drug use co-occurring. The project is anticipated to be completed towards the end of 2019.  Queensland Health is currently undertaking an evaluation of the DFV toolkit (the toolkit) of resources available for health workers and clinicians in the primary, private and public health sectors in Queensland. These resources include a DFV training guideline which encourages hospital and health services, where possible, to deliver DFV clinical response training sessions in collaboration with local DFV specialist services. The guideline provides relevant information about specialist DFV services to ensure appropriate referrals to people experiencing DFV. The evaluation aims to produce qualitative and quantitative data that will support the department in determining if the toolkit is meeting its objectives to provide high-quality information and training resources that are useful and accessed by health workers and clinicians across the public health system</p>

		<p>The expanded information sharing provisions pursuant to the <i>Child Protection Reform Act 2017</i> became operational in October 2018 with the aim of enhancing collaboration between services to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children. The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women has published Information Sharing Guidelines to provide practical support and guidance to help services understand their obligations when sharing information under the <i>Child Protection Act 1999</i>.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 9- DFV awareness training of all registered practitioners</b>  That the Queensland Government liaise with peak professional bodies to recommend all registered practitioners who may come into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence, complete specialist domestic and family violence awareness training within one year of obtaining registration or membership and be required to complete ongoing refresher training to maintain their registration or membership. Training should include specific information pertaining to working with perpetrators in accordance with the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions, as well as responding to victims of domestic and family violence. Peak professional bodies may include, but are not limited to, practitioners registered with the Australian Counselling Association, Australian Association of Psychologists, Australian Association of Social Workers, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women  and  Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.  On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:  The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women and Queensland Health are developing a communication strategy to liaise with relevant peak bodies to recommend ongoing domestic and family violence awareness training for registered practitioners in the community and health sectors. It is anticipated the communication strategy will be finalised by the end of June 2019.</p>



<p>accredited relationship counsellors and mediators.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 10- DFV training of first responders</b></p> <p>That the Queensland Police Service continue to develop operational communiques and training targeted at first responding officers to domestic and family violence related occurrences, which aim to enhance understanding of the broader dynamics of domestic and family violence and the significance of certain risk indicators that may lead to a heightened risk of harm, such as those identified within this report.</p>	<p>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</p> <p>Through the delivery of its recommendations from the <i>Not Now, Not Ever</i> report, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) has enhanced a number of training packages to address identified gaps in training content related to DFV and continues to review these packages to ensure they are contemporary and reflective of emerging trends.</p> <p>The QPS has also progressed several specialist DFV training and education/awareness products, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• raising awareness and educating members about the seriousness of strangulation by including non-lethal strangulation scenarios as a part of the vulnerable persons training package, which was compulsory for sworn members up to and including, the rank of inspector and selected non-sworn members; including strangulation prevention training in recruit, first year constable and detective packages; working closely with the Red Rose Foundation to build an in-house knowledge and skill base to help embed a uniformed, best practice response during investigations; developing a non-lethal strangulation evidence kit for use by frontline officers in support of DFV investigations; and continuing to develop a suite of educational tools and resources, for example a pocket-size trifold reference card for use by frontline officers attending DFV incidents</li> <li>• investing in the development of an in-house DFV specialist course, which is modelled on the South Australian Police version. This course will set the standard in training for DFV coordinators, domestic violence liaison officers and other domestic and family violence specialists, providing officers with a uniformed, best practice approach to investigating and coordinating a complete response to an incident. Rollout of the training pilot commenced in February 2019</li> <li>• in May 2018, the QPS released an online awareness product to assist members in engaging with the LGBTI community during sensitive and vulnerable situations, including DFV incidents</li> <li>• to help raise awareness about elder abuse, modules within the detective and first year constable training programs have been updated, as well as the operational assistance kit to include a separate component on elder abuse. The vulnerable persons training package included a component on elder abuse; training packages have been completed and delivered to Police Communications Centre operators and PoliceLink call takers; and a 5MILE learning product and an elder abuse OpStore product have also been developed</li> <li>• the QPS continues to review training packages to ensure they are contemporary and reflective of emerging trends. The QPS has:</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– extensively updated the Domestic and Family Violence Competency Acquisition Program (CAP) book to reflect new legislation, policy and procedural requirements</li> <li>– updated the recruit training phase 3 curriculum to reflect changes to the interpretation of the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act.</li> </ul> <p>The QPS is in the process of reviewing and updating two training programs, however, these will be managed as part of standard business as usual practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• first year constable (FYC) – A further review of the FYC section, domestic and family violence training package to ensure coverage of best-practice in training for first responders in understanding dynamics of DFV</li> <li>• Constable Development Program (CDP) – a further review of CDP material will be conducted in September 2019.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Recommendation 11- Queensland Police Service access to DFV history of victims and perpetrators</b></p> <p>That the Queensland Police Service ensure that all first responding officers have timely access to electronically available, current, relevant and accurate information held across their data systems in relation to a prior history of domestic and family violence, for perpetrators and victims; in a format which aims to enhance but not disrupt, an operational response. This should be supported by the implementation of strategies that emphasise the importance of this information to call takers and frontline officers, and how to better take this information into account when responding to domestic and family violence related occurrences, particularly repeat calls for service.</p>	<p>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded: Through the delivery of its recommendations from the <i>Not Now, Not Ever</i> report, the Queensland Police Service (QPS) has made enhancements to QPS systems, policy and procedures through ongoing investment in business improvement initiatives to ensure persons affected by DFV have the courage and confidence to report incidents of DFV to police. These enhancements included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improved business processes associated with administering DFV through the release of the new DFV functionality within the Apple iPad QLITE devices</li> <li>• the QPS and the Department of Justice and Attorney General worked collaboratively with other police and court jurisdictions from across Australia to deliver a national scheme that automatically recognises and enforces domestic violence orders (DVOs) made in any state or territory of Australia. The National Domestic Violence Order Scheme, which commenced on 25 November 2017, has streamlined the existing service process, where interstate police and courts request the service of an interstate DVO to the QPS</li> <li>• completed an evaluation of the DFV-Protective Assessment Framework to determine whether it was still fit for purpose for frontline officers. Based on the findings, a further body of work is progressing to enhance the framework’s effectiveness to identify individuals at risk of harm and prevent future offending</li> <li>• commenced a trial of two domestic and family violence coordinators within the Police Communications Centre on 17 September 2018 for a 12 month period. Due to its success, the trial has been extended until 30 June 2019.</li> <li>• a further review of the first year constable section, Domestic and Family Violence Training package to ensure an emphasis on the importance of information about recorded history of DFV and how to use this information to inform decision-making by first responders</li> </ul>

		This recommendation is considered implemented with the remaining bodies of work transitioning into business as usual work practices.
<p><b>Recommendation 12- Court support for victims in criminal proceedings</b></p> <p>A program for specialised and consistent court support for victims of domestic and family violence in criminal proceedings be developed and funded by the Queensland Government.</p>	<p>Department of Justice and Attorney-General</p> <p>and</p> <p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice responded:</p> <p>The Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women are working together to explore court support options available for victims of domestic and family violence in criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Both departments are investigating what services are currently available, considering existing models of service delivery and the identifying gaps in service delivery. Future options and opportunities will then be considered to work towards consistent court support across the state for victims of domestic and family violence in criminal proceedings.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 13- Strengthening guidelines re interviewing children in presence of alleged perpetrator</b></p> <p>The Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, in investigating alleged harm to a child and assessing whether the child is in need of protection, review the appropriateness of conducting interviews with children and young people in front of persons alleged to have caused harm, particularly in the context of domestic and family violence; with a view to strengthening guidelines within the context of statutory obligations as to when this should not occur.</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women remains committed to enhancing domestic and family violence informed child protection practice through the ongoing provision of Safe and Together training, the Walking with Dads Program, and continued presence of specialist domestic and family violence practitioners within Family and Child Connect, Intensive Family Services and Assessment and Service Connect.</p> <p>The <i>Child safety practice manual</i> (CSPM) was updated to include additional privacy and safety considerations when working with both individuals who have perpetrated domestic and family violence and those who have been impacted by the violence. This includes the ability to record a significant domestic and family violence threat alert to inform the investigative process.</p> <p>The child protection joint response teams (CPJRT) trial commenced on 3 October 2017 on the Gold Coast, Toowoomba and Townsville to facilitate joint investigations between Child Safety and the Queensland Police Service (QPS). The trial concluded on 30 June 2018, however the trial sites continued with the model. Griffith University finalised an evaluation of the CPJRT trial in February 2019.</p> <p>The findings from the CPJRT evaluation are currently being considered and will inform the possible statewide implementation of the initiative</p>

		The department will also consider how existing guidelines can be strengthened to address this recommendation in the current review of the CSPM. The CSPM provides a comprehensive set of procedures that guide and inform the delivery of child protection services by the department.
<p><b>Recommendation 14- Identification of persons experiencing DFV</b></p> <p>That the Department of Health develop a mechanism to assist practitioners to identify persons experiencing domestic and family violence or high-risk families who have presented to the service previously; and to better take into account previous presentations to enhance future responses.</p>	Queensland Health	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</p> <p>The integrated service response (ISR) initiative, including implementation of high risk teams (HRTs) is continuing, with six of the eight funded HRTs becoming operational during 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. A further two HRTs will become operational in 2019. High risk teams assess and respond to women and their children at high risk of serious harm or death.</p> <p>Training in the Domestic and Family Violence Common Risk and Safety Framework (the framework), risk assessment tools and changes to the <i>Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Act 2012</i> (the Act) continues to be delivered in the eight locations. As a key stakeholder in both initiatives Queensland Health participates in this training along with other participating agencies. The ISR initiative is currently being evaluated in three trial locations: Logan-Beenleigh, Cherbourg and Mount Isa.</p> <p>Queensland Health will consider the final evaluation report of the Integrated Service Response and HRT trials in three locations.</p> <p>Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland’s health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 15- Consideration of a warning flag in QPRIME to identify child at risk of harm</b></p> <p>That the Queensland Police Service implement a process within Queensland Police Records and Information Management Exchange (QPRIME) and across the Service which includes consideration of a warning flag, to assist frontline officers to identify when a child may be at risk of harm and to inform their investigations at any calls for service.</p>	Queensland Police Service	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</p> <p>The Queensland Police Service has continued to build organisational capability and responsiveness to child harm through a number of activities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• revising communication and training strategies delivered to officers</li> <li>• developing and/or enhancing training and awareness resources, including: child harm referral process flowchart and specific flowcharts for first response officers; child harm online learning product; QPRIME reference guide; and OpStore apps which are PDF documents accessible from smartphone or iPad QLiTE devices for reference in the field by operational staff</li> <li>• including child harm content in First Response Handbook and recruit training.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Recommendation 16- Person most in need of protection research</b> The Queensland Government commission research which aims to identify how best to respond to the person most in need of protection where there are mutual allegations of violence and abuse. This research should take into account the identification of potential training or education needs for service providers across applicable sectors to better assist in the early identification of, and response to, victims who may use violence particularly where they come to the attention of services during relevant civil proceedings for domestic and family violence protection orders.</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted. On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded: The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women commenced discussions with Australia’s National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety (ANROWS) and will also consult with the Queensland Government Statistician’s Office Crime Research Reference Committee to identify opportunities to build on the existing research and evidence base. Research findings will be shared with relevant government agencies and service providers to better inform responses to victims of domestic and family violence.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 17- Access to information regarding past offending</b> The Queensland Government consider opportunities to strengthen legislative, policy and practice requirements within Child Safety Services and the Queensland Police Service to enable each agency to have timely access to relevant information about past offending conduct including charge and conviction information from Queensland and other jurisdictions when undertaking their respective and joint investigative functions and powers. This should include, but not be limited to, a review of</p>	<p>Queensland Police Service  and  Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services and the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded: The trial involving the placement of four Child Safety Officers in Queensland Police Service (QPS) Headquarters to assist in information sharing requests between the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) to the QPS, commenced in April 2018 on the Gold Coast, Townsville and Toowoomba and has recently been extended to Cairns. The trial has been successful in streamlining information sharing between the department and QPS and has been extended until 30 June 2019. The QPS is working to broaden the scope of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Other Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> to include other offences of violence. The DCSYW will continue to work with the QPS to develop a longer-term approach to streamline information sharing between the two agencies. The QPS will progress any required legislation amendments for government consideration in line with the recommendation.</p>

<p>prescribed offences within the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> to consider the appropriateness of broadening the scope to other violent offences against children (e.g. manslaughter or torture) for the duration of reporting obligations, and the feasibility of broadening access to the National Child Offender System to Child Safety Services.</p>		
<p><b>Recommendation 18- Offending Reporter guidelines for prosecutors</b></p> <p>The Director of Public Prosecutions and the Queensland Police Service develop guidelines and educational resources with regard to the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> to ensure that prosecutors have the necessary knowledge to make applications for an Offender Reporting Order as a matter of course for serious offences against children that are not prescribed offences, even if they do not proceed to trial by virtue of a guilty plea.</p>	<p>Director of Public Prosecutions and Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 26 April 2019 the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</p> <p>Implementation of the recommendation is in progress. The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is working with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) to develop education and training resources for ODPP officers. QPS officers participated in a training video to educate ODPP officers about section 13 of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i>. The video is being used by the ODPP to train prosecutors and ensure they are aware of the relevant provisions under the Act and to seek offender reporting in cases where this would apply.</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 19- Review of supports and referral pathways of employers</b></p> <p>The Queensland Government review existing responses that provide support, practical advice and referral pathways for families and friends concerned about loved ones who may be at risk of domestic and family violence, and employers who identify that their staff may be experiencing domestic and family violence, in order to ensure the state-wide availability and accessibility of dedicated supports in this area.</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</p> <p>The Department of Child Safety Youth and Women established a reference group of representatives from Family and Child Connect (FaCC), Intensive Family Support (IFS) and DFV services. FaCC services provide information and advice to people seeking assistance for children and families where there are concerns about their wellbeing and IFS services help families who are experiencing multiple and/or complex needs.</p> <p>The aim of the reference group is for services to develop strategies and resources aimed at enhancing collaboration between the family support and DFV sectors, and improving responses to children and families experiencing DFV.</p> <p>The reference group identified and is progressing a range of strategies including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the introduction and implementation of a common DFV risk assessment framework for use within FaCC and IFS services</li> <li>• the development of practice principles and training to enhance DFV informed practice within FaCC and IFS services</li> <li>• the development of a toolkit for FaCC and IFS staff around what to expect when referring to a DFV service as well as a series of fact sheets to increase understanding of the roles of family support workers and DFV workers</li> <li>• strengthening the role description of the specialist DFV worker within FaCC and IFS services to ensure consistency within these roles.</li> </ul> <p>The digital self-service project will consolidate and improve access to information held by government agencies about domestic and family violence. The website will be a resource for victims, perpetrators, friends and family, employers and the general public. A specialist user experience design consultancy was appointed to the project and, following extensive research, analytics and consultation, a suite of prototypes have been developed and tested with end users, including bystanders and victims of domestic and family violence.</p> <p>An implementation plan for training in the common risk assessment framework in select FaCC and IFS sites will be finalised alongside draft practice principles to enhance DFV informed practice.</p> <p>The feedback from digital self-service user testing will inform necessary changes to the prototype. The department will then work with Queensland Online to build the solution.</p>
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<p><b>Recommendation 20- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence strategy</b></p> <p>That the Queensland Government, in partnership with community Elders and other recognised experts, develop a specific Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence strategy as a matter of urgent priority.</p> <p>This work should be informed by the Queensland Government’s Supporting Families Changing Futures reforms, <i>Our Way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017-2039</i> and <i>Changing Tracks: An action plan for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families (2017-2019)</i>.</p> <p>The strategy should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) be led and implemented by Elders and the community</li> <li>b) be informed by evidence and account for the various drivers perpetuating family violence</li> <li>c) focus on cultural strengths and family-centred services and programs</li> <li>d) recognise and seek to address the unique construct, challenges and co-morbidities of this type of violence</li> <li>e) have an urban focus as well as addressing the needs of regional and discrete communities</li> </ul>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p> <p>and</p> <p>Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>On 11 May 2019 the Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</p> <p>The Queensland Government undertook targeted consultation with key stakeholders regarding an approach to progress recommendation 20. The consultation supported the need for a new approach to responding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence, building on existing initiatives.</p> <p>The Queensland Government is considering the consultation feedback, and will provide an update on progress in the next report.</p>
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>f) complement broader domestic and family violence strategies and others of relevance including health, justice, education and child protection strategies where appropriate</li> <li>g) embed trauma-informed approaches that recognise historical and contemporary issues include a tertiary response but provide equal focus and investment on primary prevention and early intervention</li> <li>h) include a tertiary response but provide equal focus and investment on primary prevention and early intervention</li> <li>i) include primary prevention strategies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children which should be developed in consultation with young people to ensure their needs are met</li> <li>j) be sustainably and sufficiently funded, noting the cost benefit to be accrued through reducing the burden on resource intensive services such as emergency departments and child safety services</li> <li>k) include allied, wrap-around services to support the development and implementation of the strategy</li> <li>l) be formally monitored and independently evaluated using culturally appropriate outcome measures, methodologies and</li> </ul> |  |  |
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<p>providers. This should include a strong focus on building the evidence base and data around what works in this area</p> <p>m) be publicly reported at regular intervals to increase accountability. This should include tracking the investment to ascertain whether it is proportionate to the current investment in crisis response</p> <p>n) be supported by a governance body to oversee a co-design approach to the development and implementation of this strategy.</p>		
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