

Government's Response to the Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board 2016-17 Annual Report

The Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board (the Board) was established as part of the Queensland Government's implementation of recommendations from the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence Final Report - *'Not Now, Not Ever' Putting an end to domestic and family violence in Queensland* (2015).

The Board is established under the *Coroners Act 2003* to review domestic and family violence deaths to identify common systemic failures, gaps or issues; and make recommendations to improve systems, practices and procedures to prevent future domestic and family violence deaths.

The Board's first report, the 2016-17 Annual Report, contained **21 recommendations**.

The Government broadly supports the intent of the Board's recommendations, which cumulatively aim to prevent future deaths through improving the accessibility, availability and responsiveness of health, justice and community support services.

The Board's recommendations cut across four key areas:

- suicide risk screening in specialist services;
- strengthening our systems;
- earlier detection and targeted intervention; and
- changing the response to domestic and family violence in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.

The Board makes a number of recommendations to complement and enhance current reforms associated with implementing recommendations in the Special Taskforce Report on Domestic and Family Violence; as well other reform agendas relevant to the child protection, health and criminal justice systems.

Many of the recommendations made by the Board are already underway. Of the recommendations directed towards improving the systems that service victims and perpetrators of domestic and family violence – whether health, justice or community support – the Government has initiatives underway that meet the intent of all of these recommendations.

The Report acknowledges the important reforms the Government has already undertaken; including legislative reform which has seen the introduction of a circumstance of aggravation of domestic and family violence to be applied to all applicable criminal offences and the introduction of the specialist domestic and family violence courts.

In the 2017-18 State Budget, the Palaszczuk Government invested \$69.5 million over four years in specialist domestic and family violence courts, building on the success of the Southport specialist court trial. The Southport specialist domestic and family violence court is now a permanent court and specialist courts are being rolled out to four other locations including Beenleigh, Townsville, Mount Isa and Palm Island.

These specialist courts put clients at the centre of court services and provide wrap-around multi-agency supports. The approach is multi-disciplinary and collaborative, and provides a framework for co-ordinated



services – all working together – to help people experiencing domestic and family violence navigate the justice system and get the support that they need. In the 2018-19 Budget, a further \$8.052 million over four years has been committed to ensure that the Townsville domestic and family violence court, with circuits to Mount Isa and Palm Island, is funded to deal with criminal and civil domestic and family violence matters.

The Government will develop a suicide prevention framework for implementation within domestic and family violence women's shelters. A number of trials such as the Integrated Service Response sites are also currently underway as well as other initiatives to improve information sharing between agencies such as the Queensland Police Service and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women to improve frontline responses to women and children at risk.

The Government will also continue implementing initiatives that work towards improving domestic and family violence proficiency, bridging the gap between domestic and family violence and child safety policy and practice.

The Government acknowledges the Board's call for change to respond to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence, recognising the impact of dispossession, the breakdown of kinship networks, child removal policies and entrenched disadvantage, as well as intergenerational trauma and grief, on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities. The Government will explore options to build on existing initiatives under the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-26.

In 2018-19, more than \$11 million will be targeted at providing maternal, child health and family support services and programs. The Government will also develop a three year Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Action Plan to improve maternity services and responses to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers and babies across Queensland.

Domestic and family violence impacts on all geographical regions of Queensland and all levels of our society. It is only through the rigorous analysis provided in this report, and the key learnings identified by the Board, we can implement the systemic changes required to protect lives in the future.

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Recommendations	Lead Agency	Proposed Response
<p>Recommendation 1 Targeted suicide prevention framework for Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) refuges</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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 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 b) referral pathways to relevant support services, and be used to inform a comprehensive safety and risk management plan for individual clients 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>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>The Government will implement a staged approach to the development of a suicide prevention framework for implementation within domestic and family violence women's shelters and will contract an external provider to deliver initial suicide awareness and risk management training for shelter workers.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 2 Mandatory training of QH staff</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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) risk screening, assessment and management processes b) enhancing understanding of risk factors c) comprehensive discharge planning and follow up care that takes into account the safety of both self and others, including appropriate referrals d) appropriate safe information sharing in accordance with Queensland Health guidelines e) 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. 	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>Accept in part</p> <p>Queensland Health has published the Domestic and Family Violence Training resources to support clinicians – a toolkit of resources to support the recognition and response of health professionals to domestic and family violence.</p> <p>The toolkit and training address many of the areas raised, including risk screening, assessment, management, understanding risk factors, referral pathways, information sharing and information on non-lethal strangulation.</p> <p>The toolkit and resources are available online. The Department of Health will actively promote the completion of training, and support staff being afforded time to complete training.</p>
<p>Recommendation 3 Enhancement of post-natal care</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 broader support needs, and specific interventions and support for fathers.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>The Government supports this recommendation in principle, but notes the provision of specific interventions for high-risk families would need to be considered in the development of any new maternity and post-natal models of care in each Hospital and Health Service (HHS), as well as in state-wide plans and strategies.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 4 Availability of culturally appropriate maternity and post-natal care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families</p> <p>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>Accept in principle</p> <p>The Government is developing a three-year Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Action Plan to improve maternity services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers. The intent of the proposed Action Plan is to facilitate access to culturally appropriate and responsive maternal health services, while effectively co-ordinating the provision of targeted services that respond to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mothers and their babies across Queensland.</p>
<p>Recommendation 5 Routine screening for DFV by obstetricians and gynaecologists</p> <p>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>Accept</p> <p>In response to Recommendation 54 of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence Final Report, the Government commissioned an independent review of antenatal screening. Following this review, an expert reference group comprised of representatives from both public and private sector health services, Primary Health Networks and representatives from professional bodies including the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of</p>

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		<p>Obstetricians and Gynaecologists developed an 'Antenatal screening for domestic and family violence guideline'.</p> <p>The Guidelines are currently being implemented.</p>
<p>Recommendation 6 Priority alcohol and other drug treatment for high risk or vulnerable parents</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>Queensland Health</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>Queensland Health and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) are working together to support the Child Safety workforce engage with families impacted by substance misuse in the child protection system, specifically through the establishment of an Alcohol and Other Drug Clinical Practice Leader position based in DCSYW.</p> <p>DCSYW is currently commissioning a Domestic and Family Violence Workforce Capacity and Capability service. From late 2018-19, the service will deliver training that will assist in ensuring services are informed around the intersection between domestic and family violence, trauma and substance abuse.</p> <p>The Government has also committed to the creation of a new 42-bed Alcohol and Other Drug Residential Rehabilitation and Treatment Facilities. This facility will include two Family Units.</p> <p>'Action on Ice' – the Government's plan to address use and harms caused by crystal methamphetamine,</p>

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		also includes actions to support Queensland families involved in the child protection system, or experiencing domestic and family violence, to overcome substance abuse.
<p>Recommendation 7 Routine mandatory DFV victim and perpetrator screening in mental health, alcohol and other drug services</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 substance use which accords with the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions.</p>	Queensland Health	<p>Accept in part</p> <p>The Government's response to this recommendation is in line with the responses to recommendations 2 and 3. Queensland Health has published a toolkit of resources to support the recognition and response of health professionals to domestic and family violence. This includes identification of domestic and family violence through a sensitive inquiry model and how to respond appropriately.</p> <p>A project is currently underway to implement an integrated suite of clinical documentation for both mental health and alcohol and other drug services. The Advisory Group leading this work has identified the Mental Health Risk Screening Tool as suitable for use by the integrated sector with some changes made. Consideration will be given to whether this tool may require greater acknowledgement of factors contributing to domestic and family violence.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 8 Enhanced collaboration between mental health, drug and alcohol and specialist DFV services</p> <p>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</p> <p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>From late 2018-19, the Domestic and Family Violence Workforce Capacity and Capability service being commissioned by DCSYW will potentially assist in providing a professional development program to enhance collaboration, communication and understanding between mental health, drug and alcohol and specialist domestic and family violence services.</p> <p>DCSYW is proposing to participate in the STACY Project, an action research project being undertaken with the University of Melbourne focused on the concurrence of parental mental health and alcohol and other drug issues in families experiencing DFV, and building the capacity of practitioners working with such complexity.</p> <p>The Government is trialling a DFV Integrated Service Response in three locations and establishing High Risk Teams in 8 sites to ensure coordination of services and supports across government, non-government services and other community organisations for victims of domestic and family violence and their children.</p> <p>New DFV information sharing provisions under the <i>Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012</i> were enacted in May 2017, with implementation</p>

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		<p>supported by Information Sharing Guidelines and the roll-out of training in their use.</p> <p>Similarly, expanded information sharing provisions pursuant to the <i>Child Protection Reform Act 2017</i> will become operational later in 2018.</p>
<p>Recommendation 9 DFV awareness training of all registered practitioners</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Peak professional bodies may include, but are not limited to, practitioners registered with the Australian Counselling Association, Australian Association of</p> <p>Psychologists, Australian Association of Social Workers, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and accredited relationship counsellors and mediators.</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women; and</p> <p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>The Queensland Government notes that this is an extension of the Government's implementation of recommendations of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence Final Report which recommended awareness training.</p> <p>The Government will liaise with relevant peak bodies to recommend ongoing domestic and family violence awareness training for registered practitioners.</p> <p>From late 2018-19, the Domestic and Family Violence Workforce Capacity and Capability service being commissioned by DCSYW will potentially assist with delivery of training programs.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 10 DFV training of first responders</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>Accept</p> <p>The Government is committed to ongoing and continual improvement of training provided to QPS first responding officers.</p>
<p>Recommendation 11 Queensland Police Service access to DFV history of victims and perpetrators</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>Accept</p> <p>The Queensland Police Service (QPS) ensures ongoing enhancements to Queensland Police Records and Information Management Exchange (QPRIME) system and its mobile frontline policing capability to aid effective operational responses to domestic and family violence incidents. Ongoing training also highlights the importance of quality and timely data to inform decisions of responding police.</p> <p>During 2018-19, the QPS will commence a trial of two Domestic and Family Violence Coordinators within the Brisbane Police Communications Centre for a period of six months. The trial aims to provide frontline officers with access to on-call dedicated specialist advice to assist them when responding to domestic and family violence incidents.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 12 Court support for victims in criminal proceedings</p> <p>That 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; and</p> <p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>Recommendation 132 of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence Final Report relates to the inclusion of coordinating appropriate justice supports for victims of domestic and family violence exposed to criminal proceedings.</p> <p>Currently, Victim Assist Queensland (VAQ) provides specialist court support through their Victim Coordination Officer program and by funding Court Network's Victim Support Unit. Through these programs, in person court support is available in Ipswich, Brisbane, Rockhampton and Cairns with phone support available on the Sunshine Coast.</p> <p>Government will further consider service delivery models that will enable consistent court support for victims, involved in criminal proceedings across the state as well as explore opportunities to leverage off existing court support mechanisms in recognition of the importance of practical and emotional support. Specialist training for court support workers undertaking DFV work will also be explored.</p>
<p>Recommendation 13 Strengthening guidelines re interviewing children in presence of alleged perpetrator</p> <p>That 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</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>Current Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) practice provides that, prior to interviewing a child, Child Safety staff are to consider a number of factors, including whether interviewing the child in the presence of other people may reduce</p>

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<p>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>the likelihood of the child disclosing significant harm or risk of significant harm, especially if the person holds a position of authority in relation to the child.</p> <p>In exceptional circumstances, powers under the <i>Child Protection Act 1999</i> may be used to contact and interview a child at their school or other place of education without the parents' consent or without the parents having prior knowledge of the interview.</p> <p>DCSYW will consider how existing guidelines and staff training can be strengthened to address this recommendation.</p> <p>DCSYW is also implementing a range of initiatives that work towards bridging the gap between domestic and family violence and child safety policy and practice, and improving domestic and family violence proficiency, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe and Together training • Specialist Domestic and Family Violence workers in Family and Child Connect and Intensive Family Services • Walking with Dads and Caring Dads programs. <p>In addition, DCSYW and Queensland Police Service (QPS) officers undertake joint training on interviewing, and are trialling three joint investigations teams and a Child Safety Officer team out-posted to QPS Headquarters.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 14 Identification of persons experiencing DFV</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>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>Clinicians currently undertake a level of 'previous history' inquiry with clients as part of assessment processes, which are a mechanism to assist practitioners to identify possible patterns of domestic and family violence presentations.</p> <p>The Domestic and Family Violence training developed by Queensland Health also captures the intention of this recommendation – through the elements of sensitive inquiry and identification of risk factors.</p> <p>In the 2018-19 financial year, there will be funding provided to two more HHSs to fund health representatives on the Caboolture and Mackay DFV High-Risk Teams.</p>
<p>Recommendation 15 Consideration of a warning flag in QPRIME to identify child at risk of harm</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>	<p>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>Queensland Police Records and Information Management Exchange (QPRIME) currently provides capability for a particular person or address to be flagged. However, while a flag may alert an officer to a child at risk of harm, there is potential that overreliance on such a flag may cause officers not to consider child harm issues when they attend residences which are not flagged on QPRIME.</p> <p>Queensland Police Service will continue to focus on improving the capability of officers responding to child harm and to build awareness across the Service of the child harm reporting process.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 16 Person most in need of protection research</p> <p>That 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>Accept</p> <p>The Government will consult with Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) and the Queensland Government Statistician's Office Crime Research Reference Committee to build on the existing research and evidence base. Research findings will be shared with relevant Government agencies or service providers to better assist in the early identification of, and response to victims.</p>
<p>Recommendation 17 Access to information regarding past offending</p> <p>That 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</p>	<p>Queensland Police Service; and</p> <p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) currently receives relevant police information on persons with child sex offending history through information sharing provisions under the <i>Child Protection Act 1999</i> and the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> (CPOR Act). On this basis, the Government considers there is no discernible benefit to broadening</p>

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<p>not be limited to, a review of 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>access to the National Child Offender System to DCSYW.</p> <p>Queensland Police Service (QPS) and DCSYW will continue to share relevant information under the existing information sharing framework in the <i>Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012</i> for the purposes of assessing and managing DFV threats, including sharing information about past convictions for a domestic violence offence.</p> <p>From March 2018, DCSYW and QPS have been running an information sharing trial which will see four Child Safety Officers placed in QPS headquarters to assist with information sharing requests from Child Safety to QPS. This is intended to streamline information sharing and ensure that information is targeted to the purpose for which it is requested.</p> <p>The Government will consider broadening the scope of prescribed offences under the CPOR Act to include violent offences against children.</p>
<p>Recommendation 18 Offending Reporter guidelines for prosecutors</p> <p>That 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</p> <p>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>The Queensland Police Service (QPS) Child Protection Offender Registry is collaborating with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) (legal training unit) to develop a video recorded information training session, which outlines the application of offender reporting orders and prohibition orders under the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i>. The recorded training session will be provided to ODPP for delivery to its staff.</p>

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<p>Recommendation 19 Review of supports and referral pathways of employers</p> <p>That 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>Accept</p> <p>The Government is reviewing the existing responses and pathways (including non-government support services sector) to consider appropriateness and whether there is a need for alternative supports.</p> <p>Over the past three years, the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) has commissioned a state-wide network of Family and Child Connect Services, extra family intervention services, and Indigenous Family Well-being Services. These services are linking with specialist domestic and family violence services and receiving referrals (including self-referrals) for families where domestic and family violence is an issue.</p> <p>DCSYW is developing a new 'digital self-service' website to act as a central place for information about domestic and family violence. This website will be a resource for victims, perpetrators, friends and family,</p>

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		<p>employers and the general public. It will draw together the wealth of information and resources currently available across multiple government and non-government websites and make information readily and easily accessible.</p> <p>This work will complement the provision of Referral Pathways for employers by the Public Service Commission's work delivered under the Queensland Government's implementation of recommendations of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence Final Report.</p> <p>Additionally, the Government has released the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Engagement and Communication Strategy which includes a Bystander awareness campaign.</p>
<p>Recommendation 20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence strategy</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, Our Way: A generational strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families 2017-2039 and Changing Tracks: An action plan for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families (2017-2019).</p> <p>The strategy should:</p> <p>a) be led and implemented by Elders and the community</p>	<p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women; and</p> <p>Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</p>	<p>Accept in principle</p> <p>The Government acknowledges the Board's call for change to respond to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence, recognising the impact of dispossession, the breakdown of kinship networks, child removal policies and entrenched disadvantage, as well as intergenerational trauma and grief, on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities.</p> <p>The Government is exploring options for progressing this recommendation in partnership with stakeholders, building on existing initiatives under the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-26 such as</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) be informed by evidence and account for the various drivers perpetuating family violence c) focus on cultural strengths and family-centred services and programs d) recognise and seek to address the unique construct, challenges and co-morbidities of this type of violence e) have an urban focus as well as addressing the needs of regional and discrete communities f) complement broader domestic and family violence strategies and others of relevance including health, justice, education and child protection strategies where appropriate 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 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 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 k) include allied, wrap-around services to support the development and implementation of the strategy l) be formally monitored and independently evaluated using culturally appropriate outcome measures, methodologies and 		<p>Community Justice Group enhancements and Integrated Service Response Trials.</p>

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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>		
<p>Recommendation 21 Extended culturally informed family responsive alcohol and other drug treatment options</p> <p>That the Queensland Government extend upon culturally informed, family responsive alcohol and other drug treatment options, to ensure they include options for residential treatment or outpatient support and provide ongoing care as part of the treatment program.</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The Government notes this recommendation given that predominantly drug and alcohol treatment services are funded by the Commonwealth Government through primary health care and targeted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health funding initiatives.</p>