

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

Recommendation	Responsible agency as at 12.11.2020	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</li> </ol>	<p>Department of Justice and Attorney-General</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></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><b>On 6 July 2020 the Minister for Child safety, Youth and Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Minister for Youth Justice responded:</b></p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women has delivered the following suicide awareness and suicide intervention skills training to workers from the domestic and family violence sector, including women's shelters across the state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ten suicide awareness (safeTALK) workshops were delivered to 214 participants from 53 domestic and family violence women's shelters and support services. Participants reported immediate value to</li> </ul>

<p>inform a comprehensive safety and risk management plan for individual clients</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>their support work through the application of the training in relation to identification of warning signs and application of the safeTALK (Tell, Ask, Listen and KeepSafe) model.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A further ten suicide intervention skills training (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training - ASIST) workshops were delivered to 253 participants from 67 organisations working with women, children and young people experiencing domestic and family violence.</li> <li>• Two workshop packages were delivered on the Indigenous Network Suicide Intervention Skills Training (INSIST) program, developed by LivingWorks Education Australia Pty Ltd and the University of Queensland, providing a culturally-adapted wrap-around module of ASIST. One hundred and thirty-two participants completed the INSIST training. This training has resulted in participants reporting being prepared and more confident to help a person at risk of suicide.</li> </ul> <p>Preliminary consultation regarding the Suicide Prevention Framework commenced at these workshops to inform the scope and planning for the development of a Suicide Prevention Framework. Further consultation to inform the development of the Suicide Prevention Framework is in progress.</p> <p><b>On 18 August 2020 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>Suicide awareness and suicide intervention skills training was delivered to workers from the DFV sector, including women’s shelters throughout 2019. During training, participants provided preliminary feedback regarding current suicide prevention practices in their organisations.</p> <p>A suicide prevention framework (inclusive of risk screening, assessment and referral pathways) for implementation in DFV services is being developed, and further consultation with key stakeholders is underway.</p> <p>Careful consideration and further consultation will occur through each stage of the development of the suicide prevention framework to ensure it is empirically supported and fit for purpose. Implementation of the framework is expected to occur in late 2020.</p> <p><b>On 1 October 2020 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Government developed a draft suicide prevention framework that includes advice for domestic violence practitioners about suicide risk screening, assessment and referral pathways. The framework is being released for consultation with members of the mental health and domestic and family violence sectors.</p>
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<p><b>Recommendation 2a- 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>risk screening, assessment and management processes</i>.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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>On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>A process evaluation of the DFV toolkit of resources for the health workforce found that the current structure and content of the toolkit represent high quality learning supports for the health workforce and identified a number of content areas for review and update. The evidence regarding the safety and efficacy of screening, assessment and managing DFV risk in clinical environments has been considered and the toolkit resources</p>

		<p>are being updated to guide practice in this area. The updated toolkit will be published and supported by a communications plan to promote use of the toolkit across the workforce.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>In 2019, Queensland Health’s DFV toolkit of resources for the health workforce was revised, and the updated resources were published online in April 2020.</p> <p>Reflecting the <i>National Risk Assessment Principles for domestic and family violence</i>, the revised toolkit provides evidence-based information to support health professionals’ understanding of DFV risk, guide their use of sensitive enquiry for basic risk screening and make referrals to specialist workers for ongoing risk assessment and management.</p> <p>A communication plan was developed to promote further implementation of the toolkit across Queensland Health throughout 2020 and 2021.</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. The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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> 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>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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</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>hospital/health service social worker who will discuss support options and make appropriate facilitated referrals prior to discharge. 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> 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>appropriate safe information sharing in accordance with Queensland Health guidelines.</i></p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented. <b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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. Queensland Health will continue to review the DFV toolkit and its implementation, which will inform future training policy and guidance. 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> 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>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. The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented. <b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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. Queensland Health will continue to review the DFV toolkit and its implementation, which will inform future training policy and guidance. 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> 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</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented. <b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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. 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. 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. <b>On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> The maternity models of care decision making framework (DMF) and its associated toolkit are currently being developed into an online tool and is expected to be available by the end of 2019. The online tool will enable easier access to these resources by hospital and health services.</p>

<p>needs, and specific interventions and support for fathers.</p>	<p>A scoping project to improve care across the first 1,000 days has been completed. The Career Pathways and Models of Care across the first 1,000 Days project is now entering its next phase and further work is being undertaken to implement continuity-of-carer models to meet local context, community need and services for women, children and families. This is a five-year project to secure, integrate and evaluate outcomes of care by midwives and nurses with child and family health qualifications to one of four identified models to capture the majority of families' circumstances.</p> <p>The government is committed to enhancing the delivery of maternity and post-natal care for all families. Funding to recruit another 100 midwives has now been allocated to all hospital and health services and they are currently recruiting to those midwifery positions within their maternity services. Queensland Health will identify an appropriate hospital and health service to lead and implement recommendations from phase 1 of the first 1000 days project.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>Work continues to enable online access to the maternity models of care decision making framework. The framework is now online and available to all hospital and health services.</p> <p>The career pathways and models of care across the first 1,000 days project is being implemented in collaboration with Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service to improve continuity of carer models across pregnancy, labour and birth, postnatal and early parenting to the child's second birthday. Four hospital and health services nominated to participate in the models of care implementation and evaluation in seven sites throughout Queensland representing a diverse range of contexts across metropolitan, regional and rural areas.</p> <p>All four hospital and health services elected to commence the integrated midwifery and child health nurse model. Four hospital and health services nominated seven midwives and two nurses (nine candidates) to undertake the graduate child health certificate course commencing 2020.</p> <p>A project manager is assisting hospital and health services to implement the models of care and career pathways and will coordinate the evaluation. A workgroup meets once a month to ensure participating hospital and health services are supported through the process.</p> <p>The state government commitment to recruit another 100 midwives across Queensland public maternity units is finalised, with all hospital and health services recruiting to their allocation of additional midwifery positions. Queensland Health will implement a communication strategy to promote the online Maternity Models of Care Decision-Making Framework more broadly across hospital and health services.</p> <p><b>On 18 May 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:</b></p>
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<p><b>Recommendation 4- Availability of culturally appropriate maternity and post-natal care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families</b></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</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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>On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p>



<p>outreach support services that aim to engage with hard to reach families.</p>		<p>Queensland Health is finalising the Growing Deadly Families: An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Strategy 2019-2025. The strategy aims to improve partnerships and leadership, continuity of care/carer and embed Indigenous workforce and support into maternity services. Queensland Health will work with hospitals and health services and the non-government sector to implement, embed and strengthen maternity services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander babies and their mothers. A plan outlining Queensland Health's approach to implementation of the strategy is currently in development. The strategy is scheduled for release in late 2019.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Growing Deadly Families Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Maternity Services Strategy 2019-2025 (the strategy) was launched in November 2019 by the Hon Steven Miles MP, Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services, at the Statewide Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Network's maternity services forum. The initial implementation plan for the strategy has been developed and was endorsed in January 2020. The strategy and the implementation plan focus on: developing and strengthening meaningful partnerships; co-design of services; providing care that is culturally safe and woman-centred; and increasing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce in maternity services.</p> <p>Implementation is occurring over 2 phases; phase 1 is scoping and planning during 2020-2021, phase 2 is implementation and review during 2022-2025. Services that achieved scoping and planning with community agreement will begin phase 2 prior to 2022.</p> <p>The Growing Deadly Families Implementation Oversight Committee will be established in February 2020 and have a significant role in leading the implementation of the strategy.</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 (RANZCOG) 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.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland's health system to</p>

<p><b>Recommendation 6- Priority alcohol and other drug treatment for high risk or vulnerable parents</b></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>further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.</p> <p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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. 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. 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>On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> Queensland Health is continuing plans to develop a 42-bed alcohol and other drug residential rehabilitation and treatment facility in Rockhampton.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> Queensland Health engaged a non-government provider to deliver the new services which are being established in Rockhampton, including a day program for young people. Queensland Health is continuing to work with other agencies and consider the needs and service models for high-risk or vulnerable parents as part ongoing treatment service planning.</p> <p><b>On 18 May 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:</b> Queensland Health has secured a provider and site for the new residential facility in Rockhampton that includes treatment services for high risk or vulnerable parents and has identified services for this cohort as a priority in treatment service planning. Queensland Health is committed to the establishment of this facility which will provide treatment to help Queenslanders address their problematic alcohol and other drug use and make positive behaviour change and reduce stress on families. The two family units as part of this commitment support parents or primary care-givers to access the core residential treatment program while residing on-site</p>
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		<p>and being provided support for their children (up to 10 years of age). Queensland Health recognises the need to continue to explore a range of innovative and flexible alcohol and other drug treatment options to meet the needs of vulnerable parents and care-givers across the state.</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 substance use which accords with the National Outcome Standards for Perpetrator Interventions.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle. The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> 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. 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><b>On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> In 2019 Queensland Health developed an information guide that provides information and resources to clinicians that will enhance their capacity to support consumers, their families, and carers who have been identified as being at risk of violence, including DFV. The information guide will be released for use by clinicians in late 2019.</p> <p>The Queensland Centre for Mental Health Learning has reviewed the Queensland Health training program QC9 critical components of risk assessment and management. The review focused on the delivery of more detailed and contemporary content regarding screening for the identification and management of risk, including risk relating to DFV, in consumers of mental health and alcohol and other drugs services. The reviewed training program is being piloted prior to release.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b> The Queensland Centre for Mental Health Learning completed a review of the Queensland Health training program QC9 Critical Components of Risk Assessment and Management. The review included a focus on the delivery of more detailed and contemporary content regarding screening for the identification of risk, including</p>

		<p>risk relating to DFV, for consumers of mental health and alcohol and other drugs services. The updated training program is in the final stages of the approval process.</p> <p>Queensland Health will communicate with funded non-government mental health alcohol and other drugs services regarding the availability of training programs designed to support the health service system to respond appropriately to domestic and family violence.</p> <p><b>On 18 May 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Centre for Mental Health Learning has completed the review of the Queensland Health Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Services training program QC9 Critical Components of Risk Assessment and Management.</p> <p>The updated training program delivers more detailed and contemporary content regarding screening for the identification of risk, including risk relating to DFV, in consumers of mental health and alcohol and other drugs services.</p> <p>The QC9 Critical Components of Risk Assessment and Management training enhances clinician capacity to identify and respond appropriately to consumers with complex needs and prompts clinicians to consider referrals to external services where appropriate.</p> <p>To provide training and education to mental health, alcohol and other drugs service clinicians throughout the state during the COVID-19 pandemic, the QC9 training program was further modified to enable delivery using an online classroom environment via the Zoom platform.</p> <p>Queensland Health has informed funded non-government mental health, alcohol and other drugs services of available resources and training programs designed to support the health service system to respond appropriately to domestic and family violence.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 8- Enhanced collaboration between mental health, drug and alcohol and specialist DFV services</b></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</p>	<p>Queensland Health and former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>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:</b></p> <p>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.</p>

collaboration, shared understandings and information sharing.

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 *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Act 2012* 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

The expanded information sharing provisions pursuant to the *Child Protection Reform Act 2017* 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 *Child Protection Act 1999*.

**On 28 October 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 Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women has appointed the Healing Foundation, in partnership with Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS) to establish a workforce capacity and capability building service for the domestic, family and sexual violence sector. A number of

		<p>priority professional development areas have been identified for this service, including mental health, information sharing, and collaboration/partnership brokering, which have been progressively rolled out from late 2019.</p> <p>The trial of an Integrated Service Response (ISR) model in Logan/Beenleigh, Mount Isa/Gulf and Cherbourg has concluded, with all three ISR locations and the additional five funded high risk teams now transitioning to a 'business as usual' approach to responding to imminent high risk cases of domestic and family violence. The evaluation of the ISR trial, completed by the Griffith Criminology Institute (Griffith University), found the trial demonstrated emerging practice at this point in time and made six suggestions for strengthening the model and improving practice. Improvements to the model, such as refinements to the Common Risk and Safety Framework and risk assessment tools that better support priority population groups, will be ongoing and in line with the evaluation findings.</p> <p>Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women has participated in the Safe and Together Addressing Complexity (STACY) research study which builds practitioner and systemic capacity to work across services where there is an intersection between child protections, domestic and family violence (DFV) and mental health and alcohol and drug use. This study by Professor Cathy Humphreys applies the Safe and Together (Mandel) framework and involved staff training and a Community of Practice.</p> <p>A process evaluation of Queensland Health's DFV Toolkit of Resources for the health workforce (the Toolkit) found that the current structure and content of the toolkit represent high quality learning supports for the health workforce and identified a number of content areas for review and update. Some content areas targeted for update include DFV and people with disability, and additional information to increase cultural safety and usefulness for people working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals and communities. The updated Toolkit will be published and supported by a communications plan to promote use of the Toolkit across the workforce, including Queensland Health's mental health and drug and alcohol services.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 9- DFV awareness training of all registered practitioners</b></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,</p>	<p>former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p> <p>and</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>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:</b></p> <p>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>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 Psychologists, Australian Association of Social Workers, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists and accredited relationship counsellors and mediators.</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p><b>On 28 October 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:</b></p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women and Queensland Health developed a communication strategy identifying relevant professional membership bodies for inclusion in communications to promote the importance of domestic and family violence training for registered health and community practitioners coming into contact with victims and their children or perpetrators of domestic and family violence.</p> <p>The collaborative approach included identifying common messaging for communication across membership bodies regarding service system reform and the role of the Death Review and Advisory Board. Key messaging relevant to each professional group was agreed upon.</p> <p><b>On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and 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:</b></p> <p>In February 2020, the Directors-General of Queensland Health and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women wrote to relevant peak professional bodies to encourage them to develop and promote continuing professional development training for their members to raise awareness of domestic and family violence. Where relevant, peak professional bodies were made aware of their ability to access the content of Queensland Health’s DFV toolkit of resources as a starting point for the development of targeted professional training for their respective members.</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</p>	<p>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></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>

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.

- 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
  - 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
  - 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
  - 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
  - the QPS continues to review training packages to ensure they are contemporary and reflective of emerging trends. The QPS has:
    - extensively updated the Domestic and Family Violence Competency Acquisition Program (CAP) book to reflect new legislation, policy and procedural requirements
    - updated the recruit training phase 3 curriculum to reflect changes to the interpretation of the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act.
- 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:



		<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>	Queensland Police Service	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></p> <p>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> <p>This recommendation is considered implemented with the remaining bodies of work transitioning into business as usual work practices.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 12- Court support for victims in criminal proceedings</b></p>	Department of Justice and	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</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>Attorney-General</p>	<p><b>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:</b>  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.  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>On 27 October 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:</b>  The Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women have formed an interagency implementation team and undertaken an exploration of existing court support options and research regarding alternate support options available for victims of domestic and family violence in criminal proceedings.  The interagency implementation team will identify options to provide consistent court support across Queensland including the identification of opportunities to leverage existing court support options for Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, and other groups in the community that may be more vulnerable to domestic and family violence or face additional barriers when accessing the justice system, including people with disability, the elderly, people who identify as LGBTIQ+, young people and children, and people from rural and remote areas.</p> <p><b>On 18 August 2020 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 and Leader of the House responded:</b>  The interagency implementation team identified three potential service delivery models to provide consistent court support across Queensland to victims of domestic and family violence in criminal proceedings. A targeted consultation process was conducted with government and non-government stakeholders. The implementation team identified the advantages and risks associated with each model and is preparing resource costings. A draft options paper outlining these models is currently being reviewed by participating agencies.</p>
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		<p>The draft options paper will be finalised and presented to the Recommendation 12 Project Board for their consideration.</p> <p><b>On 25 March 2021 the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>The options paper, the final milestone of the work undertaken by the interagency implementation team, is complete. The options paper has been approved by the project board. The Department of Justice and Attorney-General will progress the options paper for internal consideration.</p> <p><b>On 18 November 2021 the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>The options paper has progressed for further consideration.</p> <p>The options paper will now be considered by the department.</p> <p><b>As at 30 June 2022 the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>The Options Paper as been considered as part of the response to the first Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce Report Hear her voice. The Queensland Government has provided funding for a three-year trial of specialised court support 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> 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</p>	<p>former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted. The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></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. 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. 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</p>

<p>guidelines within the context of statutory obligations as to when this should not occur.</p>		<p>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> <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> <p><b>On 6 July 2020 the Minister for Child safety, Youth and Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Minister for Youth Justice responded:</b></p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women is enhancing domestic and family violence (DFV) 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> was updated to include additional privacy and safety considerations when working with both individuals who have perpetrated DFV and those who have been impacted by DFV.</p> <p>The Child Protection Joint Response Teams (CPJRT) trial on the Gold Coast, Toowoomba and Townsville was evaluated and will be rolled-out state-wide by February 2020. The CPJRT facilitate joint investigations between DCSYW and QPS.</p> <p>An independent evaluation of the CPJRT trial by Griffith University was finalised in February 2019. The recommendations and evaluation report informed the decision by DCSYW and QPS to implement CPJRT state-wide. The rollout commenced in August 2019 and will occur in three stages.</p> <p>The state-wide rollout of CPJRT is a joint action with QPS in <i>Supporting Families Changing Futures 2019-2023 - The Queensland Government's plan for helping Queensland children, young people, parents and families experiencing vulnerability</i>, a five-year whole-of-government strategy for the final stage of the 10-year child and family reform program.</p>
<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</p>	<p>Queensland Health</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p><b>On 22 July 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:</b></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</p>

account previous presentations to enhance future responses.

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.

Queensland Health will consider the final evaluation report of the Integrated Service Response and HRT trials in three locations.

Following evaluation and review, the DFV toolkit will be promoted across Queensland's health system to further embed safe and appropriate responses to DFV.

**On 28 October 2019 the Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:**

Hospital and health services continue to participate in the ISR and HRT initiatives using the common risk and safety framework and collaborated with agency partners in the recent evaluation of ISR and HRT trials in Logan/Beenleigh, Mt Isa and Cherbourg.

As noted in the implementation update on recommendation 2(a) above, the evidence regarding the safety and efficacy of DFV screening and assessment in clinical environments was recently considered as a part of a process review of the toolkit, and resources are being updated to guide practice in this area. The updated toolkit will be published and supported by a communications plan to promote use of the toolkit across the workforce.

Following consideration of the final report of the evaluation of the ISR and HRT trials, Queensland Health will continue to work with partner agencies to further develop the trial approach to identifying and monitoring high risk victims, perpetrators and their children in the service system.

**On 22 May 2020 the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health and Minister for Ambulance Services responded:**

In 2019, Queensland Health's DFV toolkit of resources for the health workforce was revised, and the updated resources were published online in April 2020. Reflecting the National Risk Assessment Principles for domestic and family violence, the revised toolkit provides evidence-based information to support health workers'/clinicians' understanding of DFV risk, guide their use of sensitive enquiry for basic risk screening and make referrals to specialist workers for ongoing risk assessment and management. A communications plan to promote the toolkit across Queensland Health will be implemented through 2020 and 2021.

In 2020, the Department of Health will undertake policy analysis to identify evidence-based mechanisms that assist practitioners to identify persons experiencing DFV or high risk families who have presented previously.

**On 18 May 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:**

In October 2020 the Department of Health funded all hospital and health services in Queensland to implement the Domestic and Family Violence Specialist Health Workforce Program that requires hospital and health services to implement a flexible and responsive-to-needs training program to frontline service providers using Queensland Health's domestic and family violence toolkit of resources.

The implementation of this program is a significant opportunity to embed practices within hospital and health services that improve the safety of victims of domestic and family violence and their children.

This program also incorporates a funded domestic and family violence central coordinator whose role it is to facilitate a community of practice for the domestic and family violence specialist workforce, and to liaise between policy/program areas and specialist domestic and family violence clinicians to enable the program to respond to emerging reform priorities in a way that increases the safety of domestic and family violence victims and their families who access health services.

West Moreton Hospital and Health Services is undertaking a formal trial into the use of domestic and family violence alerts on the electronic client filing system that is being used in 10 of Queensland's 16 hospital and health services. Ethics approvals have been submitted for a mixed method study designed to determine current practices in recognizing and responding to people presenting to the hospital who have experienced domestic and family violence, and to test the effectiveness of electronic alerts and a tailored behaviour change strategy on health professionals' capacity to respond safely to suspicions and disclosures of domestic and family violence.

The domestic and family violence central coordinator role will work with the Department of Health during 2021-22 to consider the need for a communications plan that promotes the importance of domestic and family violence literacy within the health system and promotes the functions of the newly established specialist workforce.

Following ethics approval, commencement of the formal trial of the use of domestic and family violence alerts in increasing the workforce capacity to respond safely.

**On 9 December 2021 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:**

West Moreton Hospital and Health Services (WM HHS) is undertaking a formal trial into the use of domestic and family violence alerts on the electronic client filing system that is being used in 10 of Queensland's 16 hospital and health services. The trial is a mixed method study designed to determine current practices in recognizing and responding to people presenting to the hospital who have experienced domestic and family violence, and to test the effectiveness of electronic alerts and a tailored behaviour change strategy on health professionals' capacity to respond safely to suspicions and disclosures of domestic and family violence.

In this reporting period, ethics approval process was completed for West Moreton Hospital and Health Services' research into the use of domestic and family violence alerts on client files. This research project was assessed and registered as a quality improvement activity. This is a phased research/ quality initiative and phase 1 commenced in late May 2021. The purpose of phase 1 is to provide an understanding of current practices through a randomized audit of medical records and a pre-implementation staff survey.

A working group has been established as a subgroup of the Social Work Leaders Group to provide guidance on safe and appropriate approach to the use of domestic and family violence alerts through a commonly used electronic patient information system. This includes consideration of how domestic and family violence alerts are currently used, the need for further information and training on the use of alerts by clinical staff, and how alerts will interface with other patient information systems such as pregnancy hand-held record and enterprise discharge summary. Mitigating unintended consequences that may compromise, rather than improve, victim safety is a key focus of considerations. West Moreton Hospital and Health Services is also working with the Allied Health Professions' Office of Queensland regarding the alert data set standards and developing local business rules for the use of alerts.

Findings from the file audit and the staff survey will be used to inform phase 2 of the research. Phase 2 of the development and implementation of tailored behaviour change workshops and other strategies to support safe and appropriate implementation of domestic and family violence electronic alerts.

**On 9 June 2022 the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services responded:**

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service progressed phase 1 of the formal research trial into the use of domestic and family violence alerts on the electronic client filing system being used in 10 of Queensland's 16 hospital and health services. Phase 1 was completed in November 2021 and consisted of a randomised medical record audit and pre-implementation staff survey. The survey has identified factors including to understand health professionals' barriers and enablers to domestic and family violence practices, including the use of screening questions, attitudes toward domestic and family violence electronic alerts and managing safety concerns for women at risk of domestic and family violence. A dedicated assistant researcher was recruited in March 2022 to co-implement the findings and to be the point of reference and domestic and family violence clinical champion and influencer to improve clinical assessment and safety management of domestic and family violence cases accessing health services.

A domestic and family violence alerts dashboard has been created to monitor domestic and family violence alerts in West Moreton Hospital and Health Service and modify any alerts that are identified to have unintended consequences due to connectors with other health systems. Other hospital and health services

have also been invited to participate in domestic and family violence alert information sharing for the purpose of consistency across the ten hospital and health services using the electronic client filing system.

Phase 2 of the research trial will continue to be implemented including workshopping phase 1 results with survey participants which will then inform development of tailored resources and training to support the safe and appropriate implementation of domestic and family violence electronic alerts.

**As at 31 December 2022 the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women responded:**

West Moreton Hospital and Health Service implemented phase 2 of the formal research trial into the use of domestic and family violence alerts into an electronic client filing system. This included identification of ways to address barriers to responding to domestic and family violence, with a focus on the electronic alerts as a significant intervention and action.

An education package was developed to support staff in the safe and relevant use of the electronic alerts. This consisted of training and business rules, educational video, use of a risk screen tool, supports for viewing and adding alerts, as well engagement with specialist social workers. A champion team was established to further assist frontline staff to use the alert and respond to incidences and disclosures of domestic and family violence.

In Phase 1 a changed model of care from face-to-face appointments with pregnant women to telehealth appointments due to COVID 19 was identified. This resulted in a change to screening pregnant women about domestic and family violence requiring further training in the use of sensitive inquiry, understanding risk, and engaging patients. This also contributed to the development of a statewide guideline for Telehealth and domestic and family violence.

A DFV Alerts Working Group was established consisting of clinicians from 13 Hospital and Health Services. The Group commenced development of safe and consistent use of alerts in the various digital and non-digital information systems of each Hospital and Health Service. It will develop a guideline that can be adopted and adapted to local systems and requirements, including use of consistent language and how-to instructions. The Group collated information on the alert capabilities of the various health systems, explored alert options for each system and how the systems interact, and has been developing a clear understanding of potential and unintended consequences of placing domestic and family violence alerts on medical records in the various systems.



		Phase 3 of the research trial will be implemented including conducting a comprehensive process evaluation to determine the preliminary effectiveness of the use of electronic alerts and development of an implementation strategy. This will include auditing of medical records to compare against the Phase 1 audit, in-depth interviews with key staff on acceptability and feasibility, and a post-survey of staff. The DFV Alerts Working Group will develop a draft alert guideline for consultation with Hospital and Health Services.
<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>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 26 April 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></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></p> <p>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</p>	former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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>to the attention of services during relevant civil proceedings for domestic and family violence protection orders.</p>		<p><b>On 6 July 2020 the Minister for Child safety, Youth and Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Minister for Youth Justice responded:</b></p> <p>ANROWS commenced a study that will build on existing research and evidence base identifying how best to respond to the misidentification of domestic and family violence victims/perpetrators where there are mutual allegations of violence and abuse.</p>
<p><b>Recommendation 17- Access to information regarding past offending</b></p> <p>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 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>Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p><b>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:</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>The DCSYW will continue to work with the QPS to develop a longer-term approach to streamline information sharing between the two agencies.</p> <p>The QPS will progress any required legislation amendments for government consideration in line with the recommendation.</p> <p><b>On 21 January 2020 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:</b></p> <p>DCSYW and QPS conducted an information sharing trial where four child safety officers were placed in QPS headquarters to assist with information sharing requests from Child Safety to QPS. The trial, which ended on 30 September 2019, was successful in streamlining information sharing between the department and QPS. To improve timeliness of access to information, an external self-service portal is being established to provide child safety officers access to key QPS data sets.</p>

	<p>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 relating to children.</p> <p><b>On 18 August 2020 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:</b></p> <p>The Self Service of Document Retrieved (SSoDR) Portal — jointly funded by the QPS and DCSYW — provides approved child safety staff direct access to Queensland criminal history reports and domestic violence information. Use of the SSoDR Portal commenced across the state from 20 January 2020, following a four-week period of use by the Child Safety After Hours Service Centre. DCSYW and QPS will monitor use of the SSoDR portal as a mechanism for timely access to relevant criminal history information.</p> <p>The QPS continues to work on broadening the scope of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Other Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> to include other offences of violence relating to children.</p> <p><b>On 2 October 2020 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Police Service circulated a discussion paper on the amendments to the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> and the <i>Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000</i> to key government stakeholders in December 2019 for consultation. The Queensland Police Service is considering the feedback and will examine the legislation to ensure the proposals are consistent with government and community expectations. The Queensland Police Service will continue to work with these key stakeholders to progress the legislation amendments.</p> <p><b>On 30 April 2021 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Police Service continues to examine the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> based on stakeholder feedback to ensure the amendments will be consistent with government and community expectations. The draft legislation amendments will be submitted for review by Queensland Police Service senior executives and key stakeholders in the first half of 2021.</p> <p><b>On 29 November 2021 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:</b></p>
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		<p>The Queensland Police Service finalised stakeholder feedback. The proposals addressing the legislative amendments to section 13 of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> (the Act) have been drafted into a submission which will be circulated for consultation.</p> <p>The proposed amendments to the Act will place a positive obligation on courts to make an offender reporting order unless the court is satisfied the offender does not present a risk to children.</p> <p><b>On 18 May 2022 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Police Service is continuing to progress the legislative amendments to section 13 of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i> to place a positive obligation on courts to make an offender reporting order unless the court is satisfied the offender does not present a risk to children.</p> <p><b>As at 31 December 2022 the Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services responded:</b></p> <p>The Queensland Police Service had been progressing amendments to section 13 of the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004 (the Act)</i>. The Queensland Government is giving consideration to how best give effect to the intent of recommendation 81 from the Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce Report: <i>Hear her voice, Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland</i> which was to progress new standalone legislation to establish a non-publicly disclosable register of serious and high-risk domestic and family violence offenders to be jointly administered by the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services.</p> <p>The Queensland Police Service, in consultation with the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, have agreed to hold the amendment to section 13 of the Act pending a determination of recommendation 81.</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</i></p>	<p>Director of Public Prosecutions and</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government’s response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 26 April 2019 the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></p>

<p><i>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>Queensland Police Service</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>On 2 December 2019 the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:</b></p> <p>The QPS has employed a legal officer within Child Protection Offender Registry to assist in the drafting and application of Offender Reporting Orders. These orders allow for conditions to be placed on offenders regarding their behaviours and interaction with children. These orders are placed on offenders who have committed a serious offence against a child which is not specifically covered by the <i>Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004</i>.</p> <p>The QPS legal officer will liaise with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to provide assistance and advice in the applications of Offender Reporting Orders before a court. This supports the training the QPS previously delivered to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.</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>former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>On 11 May 2019 the Minister for Child Safety, Youth and Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence responded:</b></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> </ul>

- the development of practice principles and training to enhance DFV informed practice within FaCC and IFS services
- 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
- strengthening the role description of the specialist DFV worker within FaCC and IFS services to ensure consistency within these roles.

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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. 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.

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.

**On 6 July 2020 the Minister for Child safety, Youth and Women, Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Minister for Youth Justice responded:**

The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women established a reference group of representatives from FaCC, IFS and DFV 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, including:

- Developing a range of resources, including fact sheets and domestic and family violence best practice principles for use by both sectors.
- Training in the Common Risk Assessment and Safety Framework in select FaCC and IFS sites. The Common Risk and Safety Framework was developed for use by government and nongovernment community services agencies in relation to recognising, assessing and responding to domestic and family violence. The framework articulates a shared understanding, language and common approach to domestic and family violence risk and safety action planning, including common minimum standards and approaches.
- Training for FaCC, IFS and DFV services in the [Safe and Together](#) model. This model provides a

		<p>framework for partnering with domestic violence survivors and intervening with domestic violence perpetrators in order to enhance the safety and wellbeing of children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In May 2019, the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women launched an <a href="#">online portal</a> to improve access to information about domestic and family violence. This new portal includes a section titled 'I want to help someone' which provides information for people worried that someone they know may be experiencing domestic and family violence.</li> </ul>
<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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>be led and implemented by Elders and the community</li> <li>be informed by evidence and account for the various drivers perpetuating family violence</li> </ol>	<p>Department of Justice and Attorney-General</p> <p>and</p> <p>Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</p>	<p>The recommendation is accepted in principle.</p> <p>The Queensland Government's response to this recommendation is implemented.</p> <p><b>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:</b></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> <p><b>On 14 September 2021 the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, and the Minister for Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships responded:</b></p> <p>On 12 November 2020 the policy area responsible for women and violence prevention within the former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women transitioned to the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.</p> <p>Recommendation 20 is implemented through the release of Queensland's <i>Framework for Action – Reshaping our Approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Domestic and Family Violence</i>. Targeted consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders was undertaken to inform the framework in late 2018; and both the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group and the Queensland First Children and Families Board provided substantial input during development of the framework and actions.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> <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</li> </ul>		<p>The framework sets out strategies and actions to achieve the vision of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families and communities living free from violence and enabled and supported to undertake healing. In line with the specific recommendations made by the Death Review and Advisory Board, it acknowledges the strengths within Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to address domestic and family violence, and supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to determine what, when and how services and responses are needed in their communities.</p> <p>Delivery of the framework is monitored under the governance arrangements for the third action plan for Queensland’s Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-2026.</p>
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<p>as emergency departments and child safety services</p> <p>k) include allied, wrap-around services to support the development and implementation of the strategy</p> <p>l) be formally monitored and independently evaluated using culturally appropriate outcome measures, methodologies and 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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