

DFVDRAB implementation updates as at 31 December 2023

Annual Report 2016-17		
RECOMMENDATION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE	IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE <i>'as at 31 December 2023'</i>
Recommendations 1 to 13, 15, 16, 18 to 20 have been implemented with the responses being published in earlier implementation updates. Recommendation 21 is noted.		
<p>Recommendation 14 - Identification of persons experiencing DFV.</p> <p>The Department of Health develop a mechanism to assist practitioners to identify persons experiencing domestic and family violence or high-risk families who have presented to the service previously; and to better take into account previous presentations to enhance future responses.</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>Clinicians currently undertake a level of 'previous history' inquiry with clients as part of assessment processes, which are a mechanism to assist practitioners to identify possible patterns of domestic and family violence presentations.</p> <p>The Domestic and Family Violence training developed by Queensland Health also captures the intention of this recommendation – through the elements of sensitive inquiry and identification of risk factors.</p> <p>In the 2018-19 financial year, there will be funding provided to two more HHSs to fund health representatives on the Caboolture and Mackay DFV High-Risk Teams.</p> <p>Lead agency: Queensland Health</p>	<p>The Queensland Government's response to the recommendation is implemented</p> <p>As at 31 December 2023 the Minister for Health, Mental Health and Ambulance Services and Minister for Women responded:</p> <p>West Moreton Health undertook a formal research trial in May 2021, titled '<i>Exploring change in clinical practice of health professionals in response to domestic and family violence alerts on electronic medical records</i>'. The research aim was to determine adherence to utilising the DFV antenatal screening guideline, as well as current practices in identifying and managing people who have experienced DFV, or have DFV indicators. The trial also tested the effectiveness of electronic alerts and a tailored behaviour change strategy on health professionals' capacity to respond safely to suspicions and disclosures of DFV. As a component of this research, a DFV Alerts Working Group (the Working Group) was established consisting of clinicians from 13 Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) from across Queensland. The Working Group's main aim was to provide recommendations on how HHSs could implement the safe and consistent use of DFV alerts (in their HHS health information systems) for the purpose of identifying people experiencing or using DFV, to better respond to future presentations. The Working Group developed a DFV Alert Guideline that each HHS could adopt and adapt to its systems and requirements, including use of consistent language and how-to instructions. The Working Group gathered information about the various health systems and alert capabilities, explored options for placing DFV alerts in various systems, gained understanding of how the systems interact with each other and feeder systems, and developed a clear understanding of potential and unintended consequences of DFV alerts on medical records. To continue to improve the ongoing identification of persons experiencing DFV, Queensland Health will review the DFV Alert Guideline developed by the Working Group and the research completed by West Moreton HHS and consider recommendations made to improve DFV alert processes across the state. The research report was completed and approved in February 2024.</p> <p>In response to recommendation 24 of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce Hear Her Voice – Report 1, Queensland Health is engaging a private consultant to undertake a comprehensive review of the Queensland Health Domestic and Family Violence Toolkit of resources for health workers and develop new content. The DFV Alert Guideline developed by the Working Group and the research completed by West Moreton HHS will be considered as part of this review.</p>
<p>Recommendation 17- Access to information regarding past offending</p> <p>The Queensland Government consider opportunities to strengthen legislative, policy and practice requirements within Child Safety Services</p>	<p>Accept</p> <p>The Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW) currently receives relevant police information on persons with child sex offending history through information sharing provisions under the Child Protection Act 1999 and the Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition</p>	<p>The Queensland Government's response to the recommendation is implemented</p> <p>As at 31 December 2023 the Minister for Police and Community Safety responded:</p> <p>On 1 September 2023, the <i>Child Protection (Offender Report and Offender Prohibition Order) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023</i> (the Amendment Act) was assented to. The</p>



<p>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 Child Protection (Offender Reporting and Offender Prohibition Order) Act 2004, 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>Order) Act 2004 (CPOR Act). On this basis, the Government considers there is no discernible benefit to broadening access to the National Child Offender System to DCSYW.</p> <p>Queensland Police Service (QPS) and DCSYW will continue to share relevant information under the existing information sharing framework in the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012 for the purposes of assessing and managing DFV threats, including sharing information about past convictions for a domestic violence offence.</p> <p>From March 2018, DCSYW and QPS have been running an information sharing trial which will see four Child Safety Officers placed in QPS headquarters to assist with information sharing requests from Child Safety to QPS. This is intended to streamline information sharing and ensure that information is targeted to the purpose for which it is requested.</p> <p>The Government will consider broadening the scope of prescribed offences under the CPOR Act to include violent offences against children.</p> <p>Lead agency: Queensland Police Service</p>	<p>Amendment Act made a number of legislative amendments in relation to offender reporting orders, technology-based offending, digital device inspections, reporting practices and reporting information, information collection and sharing and other amendments to improve the protection of children.</p> <p>The Queensland Government continues to progress implementation of the Government response to recommendation 81 of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce Report: Hear her voice, Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence. Future implementation updates for recommendation 81 will be published in the Women's Safety and Justice Reform Annual Reports.</p>
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