



The Honourable Yvette D'Ath MP
Attorney-General and Minister for Justice
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

1 William Street Brisbane Q 4000
GPO Box 149 Brisbane Q 4001
Telephone +61 7 3719 7400
Email attorney@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Our ref: 595746/6, 6953841

22 JUL 2024

Deputy State Coroner Stephanie Gallagher
Chair, Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board
dfvdrab.secretariat@justice.qld.gov.au

Dear Deputy State Coroner

I firstly wish to pay my respects to the lives lost to domestic and family violence (DFV), and send my condolences to the family, friends and loved ones who have been affected by their deaths. Any life lost to domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) is unacceptable.

On behalf of the Queensland Government, I wish to recognise the work of the Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board (the Board) and acknowledge the release of the Board's Annual Report 2022-23, which was tabled in the Assembly on 27 October 2023.

Since its inception the Board has played an active role in contributing to and shaping ongoing reform in Queensland. Through the review of DFV related deaths, the Board has driven reform through identifying common systemic failures, gaps or issues in the service and justice systems. We recognise that the recommendations made by the Board are contributing to improving systems, practices and procedures to prevent future DFV related deaths.

We are encouraged that the Board is reviewing its role in preventing and reducing the likelihood of DFV deaths. As mentioned in the Annual Report, Queensland is progressing a comprehensive reform agenda and the Board plays a crucial part reviewing system responses to DFV.

Since 2016, the Board has made 75 recommendations to the Queensland Government and non-government entities. As of February 2024, the Queensland Government has implemented 49 recommendations, with 26 currently underway. The implementation of these recommendations has played an important role improving the DFSV system response and we welcome a more collaborative relationship with the Board.

(2)

We know that the impacts of DFSV are far reaching, and an integrated, whole-of-government response is needed across the spectrum of prevention, intervention, response and recovery. I wish to assure you and the Board, that the Queensland Government is unwavering in its commitment to keeping victim-survivors safe from DFSV and holding persons using violence to account, while providing them the opportunity to seek support to change their behaviours.

As noted in the Annual Report, an important part of reform is ensuring that recommendations deliver on their intended outcomes of preventing DFV and keeping victim-survivors safe. In support of this, I am proud to share with you and the Board that on 21 December 2023, the Queensland Government published the *DFSV system monitoring and evaluation framework* (Framework) to ensure the delivery of our reforms are consistent and met. This Framework provides guidance to identify DFSV system level progress made, and improvements to, the prevention of DFSV and outcomes for victim-survivors and persons using violence. For more information, please visit –

<https://www.justice.qld.gov.au/initiatives/queensland-government-response-womens-safety-justice-taskforce-recommendations/our-progress>.

In addition to this, the Queensland Government has also developed the Women's Safety and Justice Reform Priorities document (the Priorities document), as recommended by the Independent Implementation Supervisor, Ms Catherine Taylor, in her second biannual report. The Priorities document sets out the key activities to be progressed by the Queensland Government over 2023–24 to 2024–25. It highlights the key reform activities being undertaken in response to the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce Reports and the Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to DFV final report: *A Call for Change*. For more information on this, please visit -

<https://www.justice.qld.gov.au/initiatives/queensland-government-response-womens-safety-justice-taskforce-recommendations/our-reform-priorities>.

The Queensland Government welcomes the Board's review of DFV related deaths involving sexual violence and awaits the Board's findings.

Yours sincerely



YVETTE D'ATH MP

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence