



## MEETING COMMUNIQUÉ

**13 and 14 August 2018**  
**Mackay**

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On **13 and 14 August 2018**, the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council (the Council) travelled to **Mackay** to observe local initiatives to address domestic and family violence. Council members met with a range of local representatives, including:

- **Mackay Integrated Service Team** – Council members met with representatives from agencies and services that participate in the Mackay Integrated Service Team (MIST), a multi-agency response to domestic and family violence in Mackay.
- **Safer Pathways for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) women** – Council members visited the George Street Neighbourhood Centre to learn about the Safer Pathways program that aims to support CALD women who are at risk or victims of domestic and family violence in regional areas, and other activities being pursued by the George Street Neighbourhood Centre Inc. to support the CALD community in the Mackay region.
- **Mackay Murri Court stakeholders** – Council members met with stakeholders involved in the work of the Mackay Murri Court, including representatives from the Pioneer Murri Court Elders, the Binga Birry Justice Group, Legal Aid Queensland, Youth Justice Services and the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.
- **Health stakeholders** – Council members visited Mackay Base Hospital to meet health stakeholders involved in responding to domestic and family violence in the Mackay region and discuss the implementation of initiatives to support engagement with and screening of patients affected by domestic and family violence.
- **Mackay Regional Council and Mayor's Domestic Violence Taskforce** – Council members met with the Mayor of Mackay, Councillor Greg Williamson, representatives from the Mackay Regional Council and members of the Mayor's Domestic Violence Taskforce to discuss the efforts of the Mackay Regional Council and local community and business leaders to address domestic and family violence at a community level.

- **Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research** – Council members visited CQUniversity to meet representatives from the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research and learn about the Centre’s work on domestic and family violence education, research and sector support.
- **Queensland Police Service** – Council members visited the Mackay District Office of the Queensland Police Service to discuss police experiences and initiatives in responding to domestic and family violence in the Mackay Police District.
- **Community and service representatives** – the Council concluded its stakeholder meetings with an informal event at CQUniversity where Council Chair, Kay McGrath, and Mayor of Mackay, Councillor Greg Williamson, spoke about the work of the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council, the work of the Mackay Regional Council and the importance of community responses to domestic and family violence.

Following meetings with local stakeholders, the Council held its meeting in Mackay. Reporting on activities during the visit, Council members noted the **strong local leadership on domestic and family violence in Mackay**, and the inspiring way in which the Mackay community has **approached domestic and family violence as a community responsibility**. At a service level, the Council noted that, despite challenges posed by the region’s geography, individuals and organisations involved in the response to domestic and family are **well-coordinated and energetic**, with a strong level of commitment across a broad range of services.

Council members discussed activities that have occurred since the last full Council meeting, including work group meetings with representatives from the **Public Service Commission** on 21 June 2018, with **health sector stakeholders** on 5 July, and with the **Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Institute for Social Science Research** from The University of Queensland on the evaluation framework on 12 July 2018.

The Council also noted the participation of Council members in events such as community consultation held by the **Multicultural Queensland Advisory Council in Rockhampton** on 21 June 2018, which focused on domestic and family violence issues in the culturally and linguistically diverse community, a **National Male Champions of Change forum on domestic and family violence in Gladstone** on 29 June 2018, and a **Queensland Male Champions of Change meeting** on 8 August 2018.

The progress of the engagement and communication strategy was discussed, with the Council noting completion of the **first phase of the bystander campaign** and the **second phase of the Stop the Hurting youth campaign**. The Council also discussed plans for a continuing campaign to ensure visibility of domestic and family violence support options in the Queensland community.

The Council discussed the outcomes of the 18 July 2018 meeting of its **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group**, and received an update on work that is taking place to progress the Torres Strait family and domestic violence framework.

Prior to the conclusion of the meeting, the Council considered the preparation of its **next progress report** to the Premier and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence.