



## MEETING COMMUNIQUÉ

**7 November 2018**  
**Brisbane**

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On **7 November 2018**, the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council held its fourth and final meeting for 2018.

The Council considered a whole-of-government **update on the progress of implementation** of *Not Now, Not Ever* report recommendations, which indicated that, as at 31 August 2018, **95 of the 121 government-led recommendations** had been completed, and the remaining 26 recommendations had commenced.

The Council also received updates from on **key achievements during 2018** and **priorities for 2019** from government members representing the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC), the Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW), the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) and Queensland Police Service (QPS). The Chief Magistrate also provided an update on activities undertaken by the Office of the Chief Magistrate.

Key achievements highlighted include:

- delivery of **youth and bystander campaigns** as part of the engagement and communication strategy
- release of the **Year 3 Highlights Card**, results of the **Queensland Social Survey** and commencement of work on the evaluation of the **Second Action Plan**
- continuing roll-out of **integrated response trials** and **high risk teams**, including the establishment of high risk teams in **Ipswich, Brisbane** and **Cairns**
- work to support the domestic and family violence service sector's capacity to **address the risk of work-induced trauma**
- ongoing implementation of **specialist domestic and family violence court approaches** in **Southport, Townsville, Beenleigh, Mount Isa** and **Palm Island** and upgrades to court safe rooms around the State
- initiatives to address the unique challenges faced by **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people impacted by domestic and family violence**, including the rollout of **Domestic and Family Violence Community Justice Group enhancement program** in seven discrete communities around Queensland, and the **integrated response trial in Cherbourg**

- QPS roll-out of additional **District Domestic and Family Violence Coordinator positions, strangulation training, enhanced referral processes, cultural change activities and technological improvements** to enhance the capacity of police to respond to domestic and family violence cases, and
- continuing **specialist training and education** for Magistrates, and updates to the **Domestic and Family Violence Bench Book** to support Magistrates in dealing with domestic and family violence matters.

In addition, the Council considered **new communications materials** developed by DJAG and DCSYW to **support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders** in relation to domestic and family violence court processes and available support.

Council members reported on activities that members had participated since the last Council meeting in August, and upcoming events, including:

- a meeting with the **Department of Housing and Public Works** to discuss housing support measures on 13 September 2018
- a meeting with **QPS** to discuss implementation activities and associated policing initiatives on 21 September 2018
- the participation of Council Chair, Kay McGrath, and members Ed Mosby and Karni Liddell in the **2018 COAG National Summit on Reducing Violence Against Women and Their Children** in Adelaide on 2-3 October
- the work of Council member, Janette Phelan, as Chair of **Joint Churches Domestic and Family Violence project**
- a trip to Charleville with Brisbane Broncos ambassadors on 13 and 14 November to participate in the **'Beyond the Broncos' Girls Academy program**, and
- the Queensland Government's **White Ribbon Breakfast** on 20 November.

The Council considered the key findings of the **Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Board's Annual Report for 2017-18**, and the **Queensland Government's response to the Board's report for 2016-17**. The Council noted key themes of the Board's most recent report including issues associated with perpetrators with a strong criminal affiliation, barriers faced by victims of violence from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, challenges in responding to violence in family (rather than partner) relationships, and the role of the health sector in responding domestic and family violence. In considering the Government's response to the Board's previous report, the Council noted positive action including the commitment to develop a **suicide prevention framework for shelters**, and expressed support for the recommendation to develop an **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander family violence strategy**.

The Council received an overview from members of its **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group** on the activities and issues that had been the focus of the Advisory Group's recent work. The Advisory Group highlighted issues including the need for **increased momentum and a dedicated response** for domestic and family violence to respond to urgent domestic and family violence issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The meeting also included discussion of the **Council's progress report** for the period from 1 December 2017 to 30 November 2018, and the **Council's priorities for 2019**.