Queensland says: not now, not ever



Year 2 highlights card



Queenslanders take a **zero tolerance** approach to domestic and family violence

More Queenslanders are speaking out and seeking help

More than **100,000 calls** to DVConnect in 2016–17

Encouraging youth to speak out about domestic and family violence through the Stop the Hurting campaign reaching more than **235,000 people**



Victims and their families are safe and supported

Tailored support for victims and their families

- More than 12,000 people provided with crisis accommodation
- 3 High Risk Teams operational, with 120 cases accepted in Logan/Beenleigh
- Faster responses to victims in need of temporary housing

\$6.9 million for two new women's shelters at the Gold Coast and to the north of Brisbane



Queensland community, business.

religious, sporting and all government leaders are **taking action** and **working together**

Queensland communities standing up for change

- 57 grants for community events and 125 events for Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month 2016
- More than 2000 participants in the 2017 Darkness to Daylight Challenge
- 15 Indigenous mayors signed a pledge to prevent domestic and family violence



Queensland workplaces and workforce **challenge attitudes**

contributing to violence and **effectively support** workers

Continuing to build a supportive workplace culture

- a large majority of Queensland Government staff are confident they could refer a colleague to appropriate support
- the first state in Australia to create laws to support victims through special leave
- Skilling healthcare professionals to recognise and respond to signs of domestic and family violence



Perpetrators **stop using violence** and are **held to account**

Police-issued domestic violence protection notices almost **tripled** and for the first time Police can extend protection to children

New perpetrator support programs introduced to prevent re-offending

- **6000** perpetrators voluntarily accessing help
- 92 per cent increase in the number of perpetrators using services (data provided by service providers)
- 196 cases in the Walking with Dads program (Gympie, Caboolture, Caloundra and Mount Isa)



The justice system deals effectively with domestic and family violence

\$69.5 million for specialist courts in Southport, Beenleigh, Townsville, Mount Isa and Palm Island

Same day availability of temporary domestic violence orders at the specialist court at Southport

15,000 individuals **receiving advice** from specialist domestic and family violence duty lawyers

New offence of strangulation used over 1000 times in 2016–17

12,135 charges lodged in relation to offences flagged as being in a domestic violence context



Healthy relationships

- Continuing to implement respectful relationships education programs in schools
- Supporting the learning and development of young children affected by domestic and family violence



Following the release of the *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting* an *End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland* report in 2015, Queenslanders have taken up the challenge to end domestic and family violence. The Queensland Government is committed to leading the significant reform required to achieve the vision of the *Not Now, Not Ever* report—a Queensland free from domestic and family violence.

A positive plan of action is outlined in *Queensland says:* not now, not ever, *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention*Strategy 2016–2026 with a strong focus on prevention—
stopping the violence before it happens—and supporting people to live free from violence.

Significant reform takes time. It takes commitment, and everyone has a role to play.

The **first year** of the reform program focused on establishing foundations and a framework to drive transformational change and create a positive environment to foster this change.

'I watched foundations being set for generational shifts in attitudes and responses to domestic and family violence'

 The Honourable Quentin Bryce AD CVO, Inaugural Chair, Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council, 12 Month Report.

The **second year** of the reform program has built upon these strong foundations, and efforts have begun to transform the way the government and community work together to better protect victims and hold perpetrators to account. This program of change is supported with a record investment by the Queensland Government of **\$323.1 million over six years** in response to the *Not Now, Not Ever* report.

New signature initiatives have commenced, including specialist domestic and family violence courts, pilots of integrated service responses and a network of additional services to support victims, perpetrators and their families based on a comprehensive audit of existing services.

Innovative social marketing campaigns are raising awareness, challenging attitudes and behaviours of Queenslanders, and contributing to a more informed public conversation about domestic and family violence.

Our core measures of success

Trends in **community confidence to report** domestic and family violence incidents to the Queensland Police Service have remained steady over the previous three years.

In 2017, the majority of Queenslanders view domestic and family violence (both physical and non-physical forms) as serious.

The three-year trend for deaths related to domestic and family violence is stable.ⁱⁱⁱ

In 2017, **94.6** per cent of Queenslanders feel safe from domestic and family violence, iv while this is encouraging, a significant number of Queenslanders feel unsafe and we need to continue our efforts.

Percentage of domestic and family violence victims who feel safe and supported baseline data not yet collected

Community attitudes influence how people respond to domestic and family violence. Results from the first Queensland survey of community knowledge and attitudes reveal that very few Queenslanders refute the seriousness of domestic and family violence in all its forms, including physical and non-physical abuse. Community confidence is also growing with more people feeling supported to report violence and seek help. These initial results are promising. However, sustained and long-term action is required to end domestic and family violence in Queensland.

Footnotes

- i. Queensland Police Service.
- Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2017.
- iii. Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Unit, Coroners Court of Queensland, 'Queensland Domestic and Family Homicide Statistical Overview', 2017 http://www.courts.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_ file/0008/489167/ccq-dfv-qld-domestic-and-family-homicide-statoverview.pdf. As the data pertains to both open and closed coronial investigations, it may be subject to change and should be considered accurate up to the date of release. Domestic and family violence related homicides are measured by the Domestic and Family Violence Death Review Unit, which adopts the nationally consistent definition developed by the Australia Domestic and Family Violence Death Review. The 10 year trend is stable, with an unusually high number of deaths in 2014–15 being exceptional.
- iv. Queensland Government Statistician's Office, Queensland Treasury, Queensland Social Survey 2017.





Our key indicators

Baseline data has been collected, where possible, in 2016–17 for a set of indicators outlined in the evaluation framework for the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy. Some of these indicators are set out below.

Queenslanders take a zero tolerance approach to domestic and family violence	12 months to June 2017
Increased Queenslanders indicate that all types of domestic and family violence are unacceptable	94.8%
Increased percentage of victims who know where to access help	8.83% increase in referral reports made on previous year
Calls for domestic and family violence support/advice/help to women's and men's lines	108,542 calls 12 months to June 2016
Proportion of perpetrators who voluntarily access perpetrator programs or related services	5970 perpetrators <i>12 months to June 2016</i>
Respectful relationships and non-violent behaviour are embedded in our community	12 months to June 2017
Decreased condoning of domestic and family violence	See section above— Queenslanders take a zero tolerance approach
Queensland community, business, religious, sporting and all government leaders are taking action and working together	12 months to June 2017
Number of community initiatives that support awareness and early intervention for domestic and family violence	57 grants for community events125 events12 months to June 2016
Community satisfaction with the police response to domestic and family violence	2 out of 3 victims were either satisfied or very satisfied
Queensland workplaces and workforce challenge attitudes contributing to violence and effectively support workers	12 months to June 2017
Increased awareness for Queensland Government employees of domestic and family violence support policy	68% aware of employee support
Increased confidence of Queensland Government employees in responding appropriately to domestic and family violence	71% confident in supporting others
Victims and their families are safe and supported	12 months to June 2017
Number of domestic and family violence counselling service users with cases closed/finalised as a result of the majority of identified needs being met	20,742 service users 12 months to June 2016
Number of people supported to access crisis accommodation or housing appropriate to their needs	12,336
Number of people whose housing needs are met in a timely way	9664
Number of domestic violence counselling clients who have been provided with brokerage for safety upgrades to the homes of victims	602 clients



Perpetrators stop using violence and are held to account	12 months to June 2017
Increased number of perpetrators who have been assessed by non-government organisations as having reduced their incidence of domestic and family violence	1533 service users
The justice system deals effectively with domestic and family violence	12 months to June 2017
Reduced average time (in days) for considering a temporary protection order resulting from an application, Queensland wide	4.3 days 12 months to June 2016: 4.4 days
Increased number of victims and perpetrators receiving advice from specialist domestic and family violence duty lawyers	6502 victims 8339 perpetrators 12 months to June 2016: 3243 victims 4317 perpetrators
Increased number of voluntary intervention orders made	923 orders 12 months to June 2016 : 604

Significant changes have been made to Queensland's legislation to protect victims, hold perpetrators to account and support improved service responses, including:

- Increased the scope of police protection notices to protect children, relatives and associates
- Increased the minimum duration of domestic violence orders
- Created harsher penalties for DVO, police protection notice and release condition breaches
- Ensured victims' voices are heard before court decisions are made
- Reduced trauma for victims by allowing 'special witness' status in court hearings
- Ensured courts consider family law orders in light of the protection needs of victims and children
- Required courts to consider 'ouster' conditions for perpetrators to remove them from the family home
- Made domestic and family violence an aggravating factor on sentence

- Enabled recording domestic and family violence related convictions on criminal histories to identify patterns of behaviour
- Created non-fatal strangulation as a specific offence
- Reversed the presumption of bail for persons charged with a relevant domestic violence offence
- Ensured police can refer a person to specialist service providers if there is a threat to the person
- Ensured Queensland will participate in the National Domestic Violence Order Scheme to allow automatic mutual recognition of domestic violence orders across Australia
- Put in place a comprehensive information sharing framework to ensure better risk assessment and service responses.