



A Timeline of Domestic and Family Violence Reform in Queensland

2014–2024



Queensland
Government

2014

Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland formed, chaired by the Honourable Dame Quentin Bryce AD CVO

2014

2015

Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an end to domestic and family violence in Queensland report (the *Not Now, Not Ever* report) released

All 140 recommendations of the *Not Now, Not Ever* report are accepted by the Queensland Government

Trial Specialist Domestic and Family Violence Court commences at Southport

Introduction of the *Coroners (Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board) Bill 2015*

Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council established to oversee the implementation of the *Not Now, Not Ever* report

New crisis shelters established in Brisbane and Townsville to support those escaping domestic and family violence

2015

2016

10-year *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026* (and *First Action Plan 2015–16*) released

'Respectful Relationships Education Program' released and available to all Queensland state and non-state schools

Commencement of the *Criminal Law (Domestic Violence) Amendment Act 2016*

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group to the Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council established

Appointment of the Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board

Premier hosts Council of Australian Governments National Summit on Reducing Violence against Women and their Children

Passage of *Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act*

2016

2017

Introduction of coordinated multi-agency High Risk Teams to provide integrated holistic and culturally appropriate responses for victims and their children

The *Victims of Crime Assistance and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2017* is expanded and the Charter of Victims' Rights released

The *Bail (Domestic Violence) and Another Act Amendment Act 2017* amended and strengthened

Kay McGrath OAM is appointed as the new Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council Chair

Domestic and Family Violence Youth Awareness Campaign "*Stop the hurting*" launched using a tailored creative approach to reach and engage young Queenslanders

The Specialist Domestic and Family Violence Courts are permanently established at Southport, Beenleigh, Townsville, Mount Isa and Palm Island

First annual Queensland Social Survey conducted to measure community perceptions and attitudes associated with domestic and family violence

Second Action Plan 2016–17 to 2018–19 of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026 released

2018

Evaluation Framework for the *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026* released

Domestic and Family Violence Bystander Campaign "*Do Something*" launched to encourage safe community action

Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Campaign for LGBTIQ communities launched to raise awareness of unique forms of abuse, reduce stigma and encourage help seeking

2019

Release of *Queensland's Framework for Action: Reshaping our approach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Domestic and Family Violence*

Queensland's plan to respond to domestic and family violence against people with disability released

Established the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Family Violence Support Service for Palm Island

Third Action Plan 2019–20 to 2021–22 of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026 released

Premier announces all *Not Now, Not Ever* report recommendations had been implemented

Establishment of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council to generate greater momentum in recognising that domestic and family violence is everyone's concern and ending it is everyone's responsibility

Domestic and Family Violence "*Help Seeking Campaign*" launched to raise awareness of help and support options available

2017

2018

2019

2020

The *Explosives Act 1999* is amended to prohibit people subject to domestic violence orders to hold an explosives licence

First meeting of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Council

Additional funding of \$5.5 million allocated to increase the capacity of DVConnect, crisis accommodation and specialist domestic, family and sexual violence services during the COVID-19 pandemic

Implementation of a new police online domestic and family violence reporting tool

COVID-19 and Domestic and Family Violence Awareness Campaign launched to ensure critical public safety messaging during the COVID-19 pandemic

Queensland Government hosts Australia's first COVID-19 Domestic and Family Violence Virtual Summit, with frontline service providers and sector experts

Release of revised *Practice principles, standards and guidance* which sets out the principles and standards for contracted services in Queensland

Premier announces a commitment to legislate against coercive control in Queensland

2020

2021

Establishment of the Queensland Police Service's Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command

Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce established, chaired by the Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC

Domestic and Family Violence (Non-physical abuse) General Awareness Campaign "*Know DFV*" launched to continue to raise statewide awareness

Administrative changes requiring police officers to record all criminal offences associated with domestic and family violence

Launch of online hub and resources for women with disability impacted by domestic and family violence

The Queensland Police Service develop an analytics dashboard enabling police officers to identify and target high risk, high harm offenders

The Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's *Hear her voice: Report one – Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland* released

2021

2022

Queensland Government releases response to the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's first report, including initial investment of \$363 million to implement reforms

Premier announces an Independent Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service response to domestic and family violence as recommended by the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce

Changes to the *Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* provides for piloting the use of body worn camera footage as victim's evidence in court matters before Magistrates Courts in Ipswich and Southport

The Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's *Hear her voice: Report two – Women and girls' experiences across the criminal justice system* released

Release of the revised Domestic and Family Violence Common Risk and Safety Framework

Impacts of DFV against people with disability general awareness campaign launched to improve community awareness of the unique forms of abuse existing for people with disability

The new 'Respect' program launched and available to all Queensland state and non-state schools

Commission of Inquiry into Queensland Police Service responses to domestic and family violence report released and release of initial government response, including investment of \$100 million

Queensland Government announces additional investment of \$225 million over five years to support implementation of recommendations from the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's second report

Fourth Action Plan 2019–20 to 2021–22 of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016–2026 released

The establishment of a new Domestic Violence High Risk Team in the Redlands is announced

An interim Independent Implementation Supervisor is appointed to oversee the implementation of the Queensland Government response to the Taskforce Commission of Inquiry reports

The establishment of a new Domestic Violence High Risk Team in Rockhampton is announced

The interim Independent Implementation Supervisor delivers the first progress report on implementation of reforms

2022

2023

The *Domestic and Family Violence Protection (Combating Coercive Control) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2023* is passed as the first stage of laws to address coercive control

The permanent Independent Implementation Supervisor is announced

Love ≠ Control campaign launched to increase public understanding of the signs and impacts of coercive control

Announcement of a co-response model to be trialled in Cairns enabling specialist services and Queensland Police Service to respond to incidents at the same time

The Independent Implementation Supervisor delivers the second progress report on the implementation of reforms

“*It’s in our control to end coercive control*” community awareness social campaign launched to encourage local communities to help end coercive control

An integrated service response and a Domestic Violence High Risk Team are established in Townsville

Two new specialist Domestic and Family Violence Courts commence operations in Brisbane and Cairns

The *Women’s Safety and Justice Reform annual report 2022–23* is released, demonstrating significant progress

The Housing Connector pilot is launched in Toowoomba, Brisbane and Moreton Bay to integrate support for victim-survivors experiencing or at-risk of homelessness

The *Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023* is introduced providing for a new, stand-alone offence of coercive control and strengthening of sexual violence laws

The Independent Implementation Supervisor delivers the third progress report on the implementation of reforms

The Women’s Safety and Justice Reform Priorities document is released providing a high-level overview of key reform initiatives over 2023–24 to 2024–25

“*Is it love or a warning sign*” coercive control general awareness campaign launched, with targeted messaging for youth and First Nations communities

Domestic and Family Violence Reform: A Pathway forward for change is released outlining implementation progress of recommendations arising from the Commission of Inquiry

A new *Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence System Monitoring and Evaluation Framework*, along with revised *Domestic and Family Violence Information Sharing Guidelines* are released

2023

2024

The *Criminal Law (Coercive Control and Affirmative Consent) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2023* is passed, recognising coercive control as a stand-alone criminal offence and strengthening sexual violence laws

The *Coercive Control Communication Framework 2024–2027* is released

Queensland's plan for the primary prevention of violence against women 2024–28 is released

The *Domestic and family violence training and change management framework* guiding trauma-informed and culturally appropriate training is released to deliver the best possible response to victim-survivors

Announcement of a peak body to represent and advocate for the service sector including shelters, women's health and wellbeing services and perpetrator intervention services

2024