

Family Violence Steering Committee

Brief Communique

Meeting details: Wednesday 8 February 2017
10.00am-2.00pm, Level 5, 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

Co-chairs: Fiona McCormack, CEO, Domestic Violence Victoria
Rebecca Falkingham, Deputy Secretary, Social Policy, Family Violence & Service Delivery Reform, Department of Premier and Cabinet

In attendance:

Members

Amanda Cattermole	Department of Health and Human Services
Annette Gillespie	Safe Steps
Bevan Warner	Victoria Legal Aid
Cathy Humphreys	University of Melbourne
Dean McWhirter (for Graeme Ashton)	Victoria Police
Deb Tsorbaris	Centre for Child and Family Welfare
Emily Maguire	Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria
Emma King	Victorian Council of Social Services
Jacqui Watt	No To Violence and Men's Referral Service
Jen Hargrave (for Keran Howe)	Women with Disabilities Victoria
Jenna Davey-Burns (for Antoinette Braybrook)	Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria
Jenny Blakey	Senior Rights Victoria
Joanna Fletcher	Women's Legal Service Victoria
Julie Oberin	Rural RIC representative
Justin McDonnell (for Katy Haire)	Department of Education and Training
Kate Hawkins	Magistrates' Court of Victoria
Kylie Kilgour	Department of Justice and Regulation
Lesley Dredge (for Jenny Smith)	Council to Homeless Persons
Mary Barry	Our Watch
Muriel Bamblett	Indigenous Family Violence Partnership Forum representative
Nicole Cassar (for Jill Gallagher)	Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
Rita Butera	Women's Health Victoria
Rob Spence	Municipal Association of Victoria
Ro Allen	Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality

Rosie Batty	The Luke Batty Foundation
Sarah Johnson	Metropolitan RIC representative
Serina McDuff	Federation of Community Legal Centres Victoria

Departmental observers

Anna Faithfull	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Andy Gargett	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Brigid Sunderland	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Chantelle Stratford	Department of Health and Human Services
Connie Kellett	Department of Justice and Regulation
Jane Sweeney	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Josh Smith	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Karen Weston	Department of Education and Training
Kym Arthur	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Laura Portaro	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Lucy Gregory	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Matt Lowe	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Miranda Tadich	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Odete Rodrigues	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Peta McCammon	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Rachael Green	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Ryan Batchelor	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Sky Mykyta	Office of the Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor
Tania Farha	Department of Premier and Cabinet
Tim Cartwright	Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor

1. Engagement

Members discussed the significant engagement activities across the family violence and social services reforms. DPC tabled a draft engagement schedule that outlined the key consultation and co-design activities across the DPC work streams throughout 2017. Members requested further clarification and advice on key engagement and consultation activities across whole of government portfolios and broader reforms at both a state and Commonwealth level.

It was agreed that a Steering Committee Planning Day would be held to assist the coordination of engagement across the whole of the Victorian Government's family violence reform agenda. It will also provide an opportunity for members to discuss their engagement priorities and develop a detailed schedule.

2. Commonwealth Government

Members noted the intersection of Commonwealth Government responsibility with the Victorian Government's family violence reforms. It was agreed Commonwealth Government updates would be a standing agenda item.

3. Prevention of Family Violence Strategy

Mary Barry provided the Steering Committee with of an overview of primary prevention and Our Watch's *Change the Story: A shared framework for the primary prevention against women and their children in Australia*. The framework brings together international research and national experience on the drivers and reinforcing factors of the gendered violence against women and their children, and effective strategies to prevent it.

DPC provided members with the draft Prevention of Family Violence Strategy. Members discussed the draft strategy and provided advice and feedback. Members with further significant feedback or major concerns about the draft strategy, should email prevention@dpc.vic.gov.au as soon as possible.

4. Support and Safety Hubs

DPC provided information about the progress of the service design for the Support and Safety Hubs and were informed of the Hubs Expert Design Workshops, commencing on 10 February 2017.

The workshops will assist designing options for the statewide concept. Members were invited to advise DPC of any nominated individuals to participate in the workshops.

5. Information sharing reforms

Members were informed about the progress of the family violence and child safety and wellbeing information sharing reforms, including progress on the proposed legislative model for the family violence information sharing regime.

A subset of Steering Committee members will meet during the week commencing 13 February to discuss matters relating to these reforms in more depth.

6. Review of the Victorian bail system

The Department of Justice and Regulation advised members that Justice Coghlan's review into Victoria's bail system has begun.

Members were invited to provide feedback through the public submissions process that is currently open on the Engage Victoria website - <https://engage.vic.gov.au/bailreview>. Submissions close on 28 February 2017.