

Family Violence Reform Rolling Action Plan 2020-2023

Priority area

Activities

Responsible entity

Timeline

20 21 22 23

Perpetrators and People Who Use Violence

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Enhanced service responses	Adapting and learning from responses to coronavirus (COVID-19)	Activities	Responsible entity	Timeline			
				20	21	22	23
		Continue to deliver Operation Ribbon during the response to COVID-19 and the use of Specialist Family Violence Investigation Units to proactively monitor perpetrators associated with the highest risk victim survivors	Victoria Police				
		Identify learnings about service adaptations made in response to COVID-19, including through the Department of Health and Human Services rapid review of perpetrator interventions during COVID-19, to inform future service delivery approaches	FSV				
		Support victim survivors to access justice and keep perpetrators in view during COVID-19, through operation of the Online Magistrates' Court which hears family violence matters	CSV				
		Identify learnings and opportunities from implementation of initiatives that support perpetrators and people who use violence to access crisis accommodation and short-term interventions	FSV				
		Addressing the men's behaviour change backlog in Community Corrections through a combination of men's behaviour change programs and one-on-one case management	CSV				

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			20 21 22 23
Enhanced service responses continued Strengthening justice and legal responses	Consider options to address perpetrators' use of coercive control	DJCS FSV	■
	The court will establish Specialist Family Violence Courts at four further locations, Heidelberg (2021), Frankston (2021), Bendigo (2023) and Wyndham (TBC) The Specialist Family Violence Court at Wyndham is part of a new investment in Law Courts for Wyndham announced in the 2020/21 State Budget	CSV	■
	Consolidate the use of the redeveloped Courts Mandated Counselling Order Program across the courts, including Specialist Family Violence Courts	CSV	■
	Expand 'Tuning into Respectful Relationships', a culturally inclusive program suitable for remand and short sentence prisoners, to seven additional prisons	DJCS	■
	Consider whether family violence should be incorporated as a sentencing factor in the Sentencing Act 1991	DJCS	■
	Explore options for earlier access to therapeutic programs for justice clients, including culturally appropriate programs for Aboriginal people and people from culturally diverse backgrounds	DJCS	■
	Strengthen responses to perpetrators who commit multiple intervention order breaches	DJCS CSV	■
	Evaluation of the implementation and effectiveness of the Koori Family Violence and Intervention Order Breaches pilot in Mildura	CSV	■
	Review and expand justice interventions for perpetrators of family violence for whom a justice response is the only appropriate mechanism for managing risk	DJCS	■
	Ensure family violence offences are appropriately flagged on offenders' criminal records and relevant IT systems	DJCS	■

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Enhanced service responses continued	Delivering effective and responsive interventions		Responsible entity	Timeline
				20 21 22 23
		Develop a theory of change and monitoring and evaluation framework for perpetrator interventions, aligned to the Family Violence Outcomes Framework and the Dhelk Dja Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan	FSV	20 21
		Explore longer-term accommodation models for perpetrators and people who use violence, to keep them engaged and in view of the system and support victim survivors to remain safely in their own homes and communities	FSV	20 21
		Apply lessons from the evaluations of cohort-specific interventions and the broader evidence base, to inform ongoing improvement and future design and delivery of interventions for perpetrators and people who use violence This includes people with multiple and complex needs, Aboriginal communities, people from culturally diverse communities and people who are LGBTIQ+	FSV	22 23
		Trial and evaluate a new perpetrator intervention program that addresses the complex interplay between family violence, alcohol and other drugs and/or mental health issues The program will enable greater opportunity to tailor responses through integrated case management and counselling services for eligible court-mandated clients	CSV	20 21

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Perpetrators and People Who Use Violence	<p>Enhanced service responses continued</p> <p>Delivering effective and responsive interventions continued</p> <p>Explore and implement, where appropriate, peer facilitations models for perpetrator interventions</p> <p>These models involve people who have completed a program being trained in delivering the program and can be an effective way of encouraging behaviour change, as participants relate to the lived experience of the facilitator</p> <p>These models can also provide employment opportunities for disadvantaged people and communities</p>	<p>DJCS FSV</p>	<p>20 21 22 23</p>
	<p>Continue Common Clients reform work</p> <p>This reform recognises that many perpetrators of family violence may interact with multiple services across mental health, drug and alcohol, child protection and the criminal justice system</p> <p>It involves greater integration of these services to ensure that people with multiple and complex needs are supported in a more holistic way to avoid duplication of service delivery and ensure that the breadth of a person's needs are met</p>	<p>DJCS DFFH</p>	<p>20 21 22 23</p>

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Perpetrators and People Who Use Violence	Cultural safety and inclusion	Improving Aboriginal cultural safety	Work with community to consider ways to document whole-of-family practice in working with people who use violence and develop holistic healing practice guidance and training for mainstream service providers, in line with Nargneit Birrang	FSV	20 21 22 23
			Deliver the Koori Cultural Safety Initiative, in collaboration with an Aboriginal Controlled Organisation, to support mainstream men's behaviour change program providers to deliver culturally safe and appropriate programs to court-ordered Aboriginal people who use violence	CSV	20 21 22 23
			Revise and expand Koori Family Violence Police Protocols to provide statewide coverage	Victoria Police	20 21 22 23
	Supporting inclusive and equitable practice		As part of risk-management practice improvement implement the perpetrator-focused MARAM Practice Guides for those who work with people who use violence. These guidelines support an intersectional, trauma-informed approach that responds to circumstances and needs to stabilise and increase motivation of perpetrators, building their capacity and readiness to change	FSV	20 21 22 23
			Implement the Everybody Matters: Inclusion and Equity Statement by developing the associated Inclusion and Equity Blueprints, which will include perpetrator intervention activities	FSV	20 21 22 23
			Continue the Intersectionality Capability Building Project and the development of resources that support workforces to embed the intersectionality framework, ensuring that resources are applicable and appropriate to perpetrator responses	FSV	20 21 22 23

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Enablers	Data and evidence	Responsible entity	20	21	22	23
	Develop outcomes measures for the refreshed 'perpetrator domain' of the Family Violence Outcomes Framework	FSV	█			
	Develop and implement Family Violence and Sexual Assault Data Dictionary to establish data standards and improve data quality, including for key cohorts and diverse communities	FSV	█			
	Build our understanding about perpetrator characteristics and service use by analysing existing data sources, and broadening the analysis with additional data sources, via the Family Violence Perpetrator Data Linkage Partnership Project	DPC CSA	█			
	Continue to strengthen and mature the collection and analysis of client and service use data, including waiting list data	FSV	█			
	Develop and implement client outcomes measurement and monitoring for perpetrator interventions	FSV	█			
	Deliver a meta-evaluation for perpetrator interventions	DJCS	█			

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Enablers continued	Workforce capacity, capability and practice	Finalise and release the perpetrator focused MARAM Practice Guides, tools and training. These resources will include a focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> trauma-informed practice working with fathers supporting culturally safe engagement risk factors and events that relate to a change or escalation in risk and situation- and time-based actions required in response system-level protocols that reinforce the MARAM Principles and Pillars, and support practitioners to understand their MARAM responsibilities and what these mean for their day-to-day practice 	FSV 
		Align policies, practice, job descriptions, minimum standards and guidelines for perpetrator interventions with perpetrator focused MARAM practice guidance	FSV 
		Develop and deliver accredited and non-accredited family violence prevention and response training to support the alignment of MARAM	DET FSV 
		Implement mandatory minimum qualifications for specialist family violence practitioners, including men's services (other than men's behaviour change programs), with development and delivery of a vocational education and training Graduate Certificate in Family Violence as a minimum qualification option that provides training for working in the men's services sector	FSV 
		Continued rollout of the attraction and recruitment campaign for specialist family violence and primary prevention roles, including professionals who work with perpetrators This will include tailored messages and materials to attract students and graduates, people from Aboriginal, culturally diverse, LGBTIQ+ and rural and regional communities and people with disabilities	FSV 
		Explore opportunities to strengthen practice leadership to foster consistency, integration and safety in the delivery of perpetrator interventions and enhance workforce capability across the sector	FSV 

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Enablers continued	Information-sharing and risk coordination		Responsible entity	Timeline
				20 21 22 23
	Perpetrator-focused MARAM practice guidance, tools and training to include time and situation-based actions required to respond to change/escalation in risk and opportunities to engage around behaviour change		FSV	20 21 22 23
	Continue to embed the family violence and child information sharing and MARAM reforms, with a view to the rollout of Phase 2, to commence in April 2021		FSV	20 21 22 23
	Identify barriers to risk coordination, local practices that are working well and opportunities to strengthen current approaches to improve perpetrator engagement and accountability		FSV	20 21 22 23