

# DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE IMPLEMENTATION COUNCIL

Presentation to 13<sup>th</sup> Queensland Indigenous Family  
Violence Prevention Forum 2017



DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE  
**Implementation Council**

# Background



- Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland appointed in September 2014
- *Not Now, Not Ever* report delivered in February 2015
- 140 recommendations to address domestic and family violence
- All recommendations accepted by Queensland Government
- Domestic and Family Violence Implementation Council established in response to recommendation 3



# *Not Now, Not Ever* report – key findings

## FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS

Community attitudes and behaviour



Integrating service responses



Strengthening justice system responses



- 121 recommendations directed at government
- 19 directed at non-government organisations and the community
- Vision for reform organised around three key themes
  1. Need for a fundamental shift in community attitudes and behaviour
  2. Need for an integrated service response
  3. Need for a stronger law and justice response





# Recommendation 3



*The Queensland Government establishes and supports an advocacy and audit oversight body, comprising representatives drawn from key sectors from the Queensland community (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation) and with an independent chair. The oversight body should:*

- a. Be given the role to audit and undertake advocacy for the implementation of the recommendations of this Report and the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy*
- b. Be required to report to the Premier, initially six monthly, on implementation progress and the performance of the sectors taking action to eliminate domestic and family violence.*



# Council structure and role

- 15 community members and five members from Government agencies
- Responsibility for overseeing and advocating for implementation of reforms from the *Not Now, Not Ever* report and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy
- Reports to the Premier and the Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence



# Council activities

- Established in December 2015
- 10 meetings and two regional visits – Mount Isa and Toowoomba
- Round tables with representatives from education, domestic violence services, justice, police, health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community sectors
- Participated as delegates at 2016 COAG National Summit on Reducing Violence against Women and their Children
- Completed reports on implementation progress at 6 and 12 months



# Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group

- Six member group established to advise Council on implementation issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders
- Met five times in 2016 and advised agencies on implementation considerations for Indigenous communities
- Provided records of advice to full Council after each meeting
- Attended Council meeting in November 2016, including round table discussion with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community representatives



# Key issues for Advisory Group

- Provided advice to agencies on implementation of key recommendations affecting Indigenous communities:
  - integrated response pilots (Logan/Beenleigh, Mount Isa and Cherbourg – recommendations 9 and 74
  - local authority model for discrete communities – recommendation 92), and
  - engagement and communication strategy (recommendation 18)





# Implementation progress

- Council receives quarterly reports from government on implementation progress
- 121 government recommendations:
  - 55 recommendations completed and 66 commenced to date
- 19 non-government recommendations
  - four recommendations completed



# Key implementation actions

- Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy developed
- Respectful relationships education program developed for Queensland schools
- New crisis shelters for Brisbane and Townsville (opened) and Roma and Charters Towers (announced)
- Specialist domestic and family violence court trial at Southport
- Release of toolkit of resources, training program and referral model for health professionals
- Best practice guidelines for lawyers
- Establishment of Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board
- Integrated response trials announced for Mount Isa, Beenleigh/Logan and Cherbourg
- All recommended legislative changes completed



# Future focus for Council

- Continue to monitor implementation of key initiatives including:
  - Roll-out of engagement and communication strategy campaigns and development of media guide
  - Development of evaluation framework
  - Implementation of integrated response pilots in Logan/Beenleigh, Mount Isa and Cherbourg with supporting tools
  - Further roll-out of specialist courts
  - Building capacity in community justice groups
- Promoting efforts to tackle domestic and family violence across the community

