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Minister for Racing
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family and
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09 JUN 2026

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Legislative Council Select Committee Estimates B
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APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2026

DIVISION 10 – DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET Output 1.4 Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

I would like to correct some information provided at the hearing examining the Women and the Prevention of Family Violence portfolio. In response to a question on the gender composition of the Victim Survivor Advisory Council (VSAC), it was advised that there was one member who identified as male. This is not correct. The initial applicant pool included one male, who subsequently withdrew from consideration. The ten members who were appointed to VSAC in 2024 identified as women. Since that time, two members have left, with eight members remaining.

Please find below and attached the following responses to questions raised in the examination of the Women and the Prevention of Family Violence portfolio.

Question 1. In relation to the Federal Government funding streams that are included in Budget Paper No.2, p.222, Table 10.3, line item 1.4 Women and the Prevention of Family Violence, please provide a breakdown of the programs, initiatives, or service streams that are funded and amounts each received from this line item in 2025-26 and planned for 2026-27, and also details of the most recent reporting to the Federal Government in relation to those.

Table 10.3 includes expenses for Output 1.4 Women and the Prevention of Family Violence. This includes funding provided by the Commonwealth Government under the Federation Funding Agreement on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Responses 2021 – 2030 (FFA FDSV).

The most recent FFA FDSV, which includes the Innovative Perpetrator Responses Boost funding but not the 500 Worker Initiative continuation due to timing, can be accessed on the Commonwealth's Federal Financial Relations [website](#). The FFA FDSV includes schedules of payments to jurisdictions under each component.

2023-25 component

Tasmanian projects in 2025-26 funded by the Commonwealth under the 2023-25 component of the FFA FDSV are set out in Attachment 1, Table 1.

The Commonwealth does not currently make publicly available annual reporting on this funding

2025-30 component

Tasmanian projects funded by the Commonwealth in 2025-26 under the 2025-30 FFA FDSV component are set out in Attachment 1, Table 2.

Tasmania's 2025-26 project plan under the 2025-30 FFA FDSV component is available on the Department of Social Services [website](#).

Funding allocations for 2026-27 and 2027-28 are currently being finalised. A project plan for that period will be published on the DSS website in due course.

The most recent report (six months until December 2025) has been provided to the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth has not made this report publicly available.

Question 2. Budget Paper No.2, p.224, explains the decrease in Estimated Outcome for the Women and Prevention of Family Violence Output as reflecting the transfer of appropriation to a number of other Departments to implement activities associated with Tasmania's Third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan. Please provide details of the amounts transferred to each Department, the programs funded in each, and amounts of funding transferred for each program.

Transfers from the Department of Premier and Cabinet to other government agencies are reflected in the decrease in Estimated Outcome from Budget in 2025-26 and relate to specific Actions under Tasmania's Third Action Plan on Family and Sexual Violence: Survivors at the Centre 2022-2027. The decrease noted in the Estimated Outcome also reflects other in-year movements. This means the decrease amount is different to the total of the agency transfers.

Transfers to agencies in 2025-26 are set out at Attachment 2, Table 1. These transfers will continue in 2026-27, however note that the Machinery of Government changes may impact

transfers to the Department of Justice as the Family and Sexual Safety Secretariat moves from DPAC to the Department of Justice in July 2026.

Total funding for each Agency is set out in Attachment 2, Table 2.

Question 3. Please provide the term of reference or scoping document in relation to the evaluation to be undertaken of sexual and family violence services in Tasmania.

The detailed scope for the evaluation of Tasmania's Family and Sexual Violence Action Plans (2015–2025) is set out at Attachment 3. This Specification was included as part of the Request for Quotation released to market via a Tasmanian Government procurement process in January 2026.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jane Howlett', is written over the typed name and title.

Hon Jane Howlett MP

Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence

Attachment 1

Table 1 – Tasmanian projects in 2025-26 funded by the Commonwealth under the 2023-25 component of the FFA FDSV

Program	Description	Organisation	2025-26 Amount
Step Up Adolescent Program	An early intervention rehabilitative program that works directly with adolescents aged 12 to 17 years and their partners and/or caregivers	Home Base	\$712,500
Keeping Women Safe in Their Home	Top-up funding to ensure ongoing delivery of this program which supports women who experience family violence to safely remain in their home	Department of Justice	\$400,000
Safe Beds for Pets	Continue delivering a coordinated network of safe bed providers and safe bed places for pets of Tasmanians at risk of or experiencing family and/or sexual violence	RSPCA Tasmania	\$75,000
Mothers Circle	Early intervention program designed to strengthen individual capability, raise awareness of violence and emotional literacy to empower and enable mothers to prevent and address violent behaviour and build parenting capacity	Migrant Resources Centre Tasmania	\$75,000
Nukura	Early engagement and prevention supports to decrease the number of Aboriginal children entering the child safety and out-of-home care systems, with a focus on children who have experienced family violence	Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre (via DECYP funding agreement)	\$625,000 paid in 2025-26 for implementation in 2026-27
Peak body	Peak body to improve coordination of the family and sexual violence sector in Tasmania	Tasmanian Family and Sexual Violence Alliance	\$200,000

Supporting Diverse Communities Round 2	Community organisations to deliver community-based projects and/or enhanced service capability to support inclusion, access and equity for diverse people and groups who experience barriers to support for family and sexual violence.	Migrant Resource Centre Tasmania Refugee Legal Service (Tas) Uniting (Victoria and Tasmania) Women's Shelter Inc	Paid in 2024-25 for implementation in 2025-26
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Table 2 – Tasmanian projects funded by the Commonwealth in 2025-26 under the 2025-30 FFA FDSV

Program	Description	Organisation	2025-26 Amount
Keeping Women Safe in Their Home	Top-up funding to ensure ongoing delivery of this program which supports women who experience family violence to safely remain in their home	Department of Justice	\$405,000
Local Support Coordinator	Up to 1.6 FTE to support women with disability, and women with children with disability, who have experienced family violence	CatholicCare (Safe Choices)	\$200,000
Arch therapeutic support	Therapeutic services for victim-survivors of sexual violence in 3 x Arch centres	Sexual Assault Support Service and Laurel House	\$900,000 (\$300,000 for SASS for Southern Arch; \$300,000 for Laurel House for each of Northern and Western Arch)

Attachment 2

Table 1 – Agency transfers: Tasmania’s Third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan

SATC Action Number	Purpose	Agency	Amount	TOTAL for Action
2	Expand the scope of the Safe Families Coordination Unit to undertake whole of Government data coordination and integration for family and sexual violence.	DPFEM	\$1,241,011	\$1,840,597#
		DoH	\$147,165	
		DoJ	\$198,885	
		DECYP	\$253,537	
8	Continue to implement legislative reform to strengthen legal responses to family and sexual violence	DoJ	\$135,000	\$135,000
16	Continue to deliver Flexible Support Packages	DoJ	\$330,000	\$330,000
18	Continue to provide legal assistance to people experiencing family and sexual violence. Funding provided to Women’s Legal Service Tasmania (A) and Legal Aid Tasmania (B)	DoJ	\$212,24 (A)	\$320,485
			\$108,243 (B)	
19	Strengthening Victims of Crime Service.	DoJ	\$160,000	\$160,000
20	Continue to deliver perpetrator programs. Funding in (A) provided to Relationships Australia Tasmania	DoJ	\$374,000 (A)	\$458,000
			\$84,000	
21	Deliver mandated behaviour change programs, including as part of a family violence order, and for sex offenders.	DoJ	\$157,000	\$357,000
			\$200,000	
22	Continue to strengthen specialist police prosecution.	DPFEM	\$436,145	\$436,145

SATC Action Number	Purpose	Agency	Amount	TOTAL for Action
23	Continue to ensure forensic medical examinations for adult victim-survivors of family and sexual violence is a state-wide service.	DoH	\$110,000	\$110,000
29	Strengthen the Defendant Health Liaison Service to provide early intervention assessment and management services to respondents.	DoH	\$150,000	\$150,000
30	Continue to deliver the Men's Referral Service.	DoJ	\$180,850	\$180,850
36	Continue to support children and families through the Safe Homes, Safe Families Support Team.	DECYP	\$721,621	\$721,621
37	Continue to support Aboriginal Families through the Aboriginal Family Safety Workers in Child and Family Learning Centres.	DECYP	\$148,569	\$148,569

Table 2 – totals for each Agency

Department of Justice	\$2,140,220
Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management	\$1,677,156
Department for Education, Children and Young People	\$1,123,727
Department of Health	\$407,165

Note: In addition, the Department of Premier and Cabinet retains \$147,165 under Action 2.

Evaluation of Tasmania's Family and Sexual Violence Action Plans (2015–2025)

1. Purpose

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) seeks a suitably qualified consultant to undertake a high-level evaluation of Tasmania's Family and Sexual Violence Action Plans over the period 2015–2025. This specification is intended to inform a Request for Quotation (RFQ). Accordingly, the evaluation is expected to adopt a proportionate, high-level approach that leverages existing data, documentation and stakeholder knowledge, rather than undertaking extensive primary data collection.

The evaluation will generate evidence and system-level insights to inform:

- Development of the next whole-of-government family and sexual violence strategy; and
- Government decision-making and accountability, including reporting to senior executives, Cabinet and external partners.

2. Scope of Evaluation

The evaluation will consider the cumulative impact, outcomes and system evolution across three successive Action Plans:

- *Safe Homes, Safe Families: Tasmania's Family Violence Action Plan 2015–2020*
- *Safe Homes, Families, Communities: Tasmania's Action Plan for Family and Sexual Violence 2019–2022*
- *Tasmania's Third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan: Survivors at the Centre 2022–2027 (current plan)*

While the Third Action Plan remains active, the primary focus of the evaluation period is 2015–2025. The evaluation is not intended to assess individual service performance or conduct detailed cost–benefit analysis, but to provide a strategic, system-level assessment across time.

3. Evaluation Approach

The evaluation must be delivered as a **high-level, proportionate exercise** consistent within an allocated budget and timeframe. Suppliers should demonstrate an approach that is efficient, targeted and relies on existing evidence rather than new data collection.

The evaluation will apply a predominantly **summative** approach, supplemented by **formative and process insights** where required to explain system change. The methodology should be scaled to the available budget and primarily informed by:

- Existing government documentation and data supplied by DPAC (as Principal);
- Published reports, available national and state data; and
- Targeted consultation with a limited number of key stakeholders.

The evaluation should be guided by relevant national and jurisdictional frameworks, including:

- National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children 2022–2032;
- National Outcomes Framework and National Theory of Change;
- *Change the Story* (Our Watch); and
- Relevant Tasmanian outcomes and evaluation frameworks.

4. Core Streams of Analysis

The evaluation must address three core and interconnected streams of analysis. Each stream should be approached at a strategic and system level, rather than through detailed program-by-program or service-level assessment.

The evaluation must address three core and interconnected streams.

Stream 1: Effectiveness Over Time

Objective

To assess what has been delivered and achieved across the three Action Plans, and the extent to which they have achieved sustained social, system and cultural change over time to prevent and respond to family and sexual violence.

Key Areas of Focus

At a high level, the evaluation should consider:

- **Effectiveness** – What actions were implemented and what outcomes were achieved?
- **Efficiency** – How well were available resources utilised at a system level?
- **Impact** – What evidence exists of longer-term outcomes or systemic change?
- **Relevance** – How well did actions respond to Tasmania’s evolving needs and context?
- **Sustainability** – To what extent are reforms, outcomes and capabilities enduring?

Required Analysis

The Supplier should provide:

- A high-level assessment of outcomes and lessons learned at:
 - Program or project/initiative level (where evidence exists); and
 - System level, including policy, governance, coordination and cultural change.
- Identification of enabling and limiting factors influencing effectiveness over time.
- Commentary on progress toward long-term reform, rather than short-term outputs.

Stream 2: Therapeutic Service and System Review

Objective

To examine the evolution, strengths, gaps and future readiness of Tasmania’s therapeutic service system supporting victim-survivors and related cohorts.

Scope

The review should consider the family and sexual violence therapeutic service system broadly, including (at a high level):

- Counselling and trauma recovery services;

- Sexual assault support services (including responses to child sexual abuse and harmful sexual behaviours);
- Family violence counselling and advocacy;
- Therapeutic responses for children and young people;
- Aboriginal community-controlled healing responses;
- Perpetrator interventions; and
- Services for diverse population groups (e.g. disability, rural and remote, older people, migrant and culturally diverse communities).

The review will be informed by relevant recommendations of the [Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings](#) (Recommendations 21.1, 21.3, 21.4, 21.6, 21.7, 21.8) which require the government to review the current therapeutic service system to inform the design and implementation of a more coordinated, inclusive, and sustainably funded system in Tasmania.

Key Assessment Questions

The evaluation should address questions such as:

- 1. Accessibility, timeliness and equity**
How accessible, timely and equitable are therapeutic services across Tasmania?
- 2. System capability and capacity**
Does the system have sufficient capability, workforce capacity and cultural safety to deliver trauma-informed and specialised responses?
- 3. System coherence and integration**
How effectively are services coordinated, including referral pathways and cross-sector linkages?
- 4. System evolution and future readiness**
How has the system evolved in response to Action Plan investments and Commission of Inquiry reforms, and how well positioned is it for future demand?

System-level Insights

The consultant is expected to provide:

- Identification of key systemic barriers and strengths (e.g. workforce, funding, governance, integration);
- High-level assessment of system maturity and integration over time; and
- Practical, forward-looking insights to strengthen system capability and sustainability.

Stream 3: Financial Sustainability and Investment

Objective

To provide a high-level synthesis of existing financial information on investment across the Action Plans, to support understanding of where investment has been directed and how it has contributed to the intended outcomes.

Scope and Approach

This stream does not involve a new financial analysis, but will draw on existing documentation supplied by DPAC. It will:

- Avoid forensic analysis, re-modelling or detailed financial assessment; and
- Focus on system-level observations rather than program-by-program review.

Key Components

The Supplier should undertake:

Investment Overview (High-Level)

A brief synthesis of existing information outlining

- Total investment across the three Action Plans, by plan and over time;
- Broad allocation by strategic focus (e.g. prevention, early intervention, response, recovery/healing);
- High-level description of investment across government and community sector delivery; and
- Identification of materially relevant aligned or cross-agency investments, where documented.

Adequacy and Efficiency Observations

Based on existing material:

- Identification of commonly noted constraints related to short-term or fragmented funding

Sustainability and Future Considerations

High level reflections on:

- How funding approaches have supported:
 - Prevention, early intervention, response, recovery/healing;
 - Workforce stability;
 - Service continuity;
 - System capability over time.
- Strategic considerations for future investment approaches, including multi-year funding, joined-up investment, and transition of mature initiatives to business-as-usual.

5. Deliverables

The Supplier will be expected to provide:

- A clear evaluation plan and approach (post DPAC initial pre-briefing)
- A concise evaluation report (indicatively no more than 40 pages, excluding appendices) addressing the three streams of analysis;
- Clear, evidence-informed findings and system-level insights; and
- Practical, prioritised recommendations to inform future strategy, policy and investment.

Deliverables must be written in plain English and suitable for senior executive, Cabinet-level and external audiences, noting sensitivities.

6. Out of Scope

To ensure proportionality and value for money, the following are out of scope:

- Detailed service-level performance audits or accreditation reviews;
- Forensic financial analysis, cost-benefit analysis or re-modelling of historical expenditure;

- Large-scale primary data collection (e.g. surveys of service users or frontline staff);
- Evaluation of individual client outcomes or case-level analysis.

7. Constraints

The Supplier must design and deliver the evaluation in alignment with:

- An allocated budget and defined timeframe;
- Primary reliance on existing data, reports and documentation supplied by DPAC as principal;
- A need for proportionality, practicality and efficient use of resources; and

Government procurement, confidentiality and information-handling requirements.