



QDVSN

ISSUES PAPER

(for distribution to other networks)

KEY ISSUES ARISING FROM THE QDVSN MEETING

Caboolture, October 2-3 2014

In the spirit of enhancing information sharing and collaboration between our networks, Queensland Domestic Violence Services Network (QDVSN) decided to distribute to other related and like networks and services, relevant issues arising from the QDVSN meetings. In addition, QDVSN recognises that our networks are frequently responding to and discussing the same issues and the strength that lies in co-ordinating and sharing information. After each QDVSN meeting, the QDVSN secretary can forward to your network/service the key relevant issues arising from the QDVSN meeting. In addition, if your network/service would like to similarly disseminate information relating to your network/service, we would certainly welcome this.

The Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research (CDFVR)

With the development of ANROWS (Australia's National Research Organisation on Women's Safety) there has been a split between service development and research at CDFVR, with 75% of their work being directed from ANROWS. Concern exists that the direct service sector may lose the ability to feed into the research agenda. Dr Annabel Taylor is the newly appointed director, and Heather Lovatt, interim director, said that she will bring new ways of progressing research into DFV.

This also has implications for their provision of resources. CDFVR's priorities and future focus will still include training and resource provision, including practice and research seminars.

Ending Violence Against Women Queensland (EVAWQ)

The steering group of the new peak body encompassing sexual assault, DFV, refuges and women's health services, has met several times. A website has been developed

www.violenceagainstwomenqueensland.com.au

and structures and strategies for action have been examined.

Position Paper:

QDVSN has engaged Katrina Finn to work with a sub group to collate the development of a Future Options Paper, with the purpose of providing information, advice and most importantly options regarding implementing the 'Roadmap' and renewal of DFV services. The paper recommends a policy framework that is evidence based, ensuring the safety of victims, a gendered analysis of DFV, and accountability by perpetrators. It endorses the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their children. The paper states that the role of specialist DFV services is vital to risk assessment and perpetrator accountability.

This paper has led to a submission to the premier's taskforce inquiry onto DFV. It is anticipated that the paper will be useful in future advocacy and for discussions in varied settings.

Perpetrator Programmes:

The recommendations in the Carmody report

<http://www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/publications>

can be used to advance requests for perpetrator programmes. It is hoped that accredited training for facilitators of perpetrator programmes will be available in Queensland fairly soon.

A review of the Professional Practice Standards for working with Perpetrators was recommended. A project by Reos Partners to consider outcome standards has been undertaken, and a reference group is working on their recommendations.

Data Working Party:

The 'NASA' working party is part of the Carmody recommendations, and is to be rolled out statewide. It is using a wide range of data systems from government and NGO sources to extrapolate data to show regions of greatest vulnerability. These have showed that far north Queensland has the greatest need. The project's findings are to be used for family services and Child Protection.

Child & Family Connect:

The first six sites for this service, formerly called the CBIR, will begin work in January. They will include a DFV specialist worker and a Child Safety worker. The number of sites will grow to 20 in January 2016.

New service agreements:

Reporting will move from outputs to outcomes after July 1, 2015. QDVSN members attended a Results Based Analysis training session, which produced a list of possible outcomes.

Participation in a child protection alliance will apply to all DV services. This includes acceptance of referrals. Services need to be involved in local Alliances.

Some services will have brokerage for Safety upgrades included in their funding.

Funding:

The Carmody reforms will be funded with \$406M over five years. \$49M is provided for DFV responses.

New Appointments:

Pauline Woodbridge (Townsville) has been appointed convenor, with Jude Marshall (Mackay) as the QDVSN Secretariat.