



Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary

The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016

19/563 ACT Government response to the Justice and Community Safety Standing Committee report on the inquiry into domestic and family violence – policy approaches and responses

Summary of impacts:

- The ACT Government Response highlights the breadth and depth of work underway across government and the community to reduce the impacts of domestic and family violence (DFV) in the ACT
- While the ACT Government acknowledges that women and their children make up the largest cohort of DFV victims, government work to address domestic and family violence is inclusive of different groups (both as perpetrators and victim/survivors) to reflect that men and same sex couples also experience DFV.
- There are no direct ACT Government Budgets impacts from this work.
- There are no anticipated environmental impacts.

Level of impact

Positive

Negative

Neutral

Social

Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We know from evidence that men are primarily the perpetrators of violence and coercion against women and their children. https://www.communityservices.act.gov.au/women/resources • While the ACT Government acknowledges that women and their children make up the largest cohort of DFV victims, government work to address DFV is inclusive of different groups (both as perpetrators and victim/survivors) to reflect that men and same sex couples also experience DFV. • A focus on improving outcomes for both victims and perpetrators means that both women and men will be impacted by this work. • The ACT Government Domestic and Family Violence Frontline Worker Training Strategy addresses the gendered nature of DFV against women. While the approach may appear to be focused on women, it addresses the issue for majority of victims. Also, awareness of the issue overall and the skills to recognise and respond to DFV can be applied generically for victims of all genders. • A gender Impact Assessment has been completed as part of this cabinet submission.

Positive	Health (Community and mental health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing on Australian and international studies, the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare found an association between women experiencing DFV and a wide range of health impacts. • They found that among women 18 to 44 years, DFV was the biggest single risk factor when violence in all intimate relationships was included, bigger than smoking, alcohol use or being overweight or obese. • When considering only violence by live-in partners, in this age group, partner violence ranked second only to alcohol use.
Positive	Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A key insight discovered during the co-design phase of the Family Safety Hub is that a fragmented service system prevents the delivery of long-term, joined up holistic responses to people experiencing DFV. • This is one of the key insights that inform the work of the Family Safety Hub and the Office of the Coordinator General for Family Safety towards improving service integration and coordination for people experiencing DFV.
Positive	Homelessness support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFV remains the primary cause of women's homelessness in Australia. • Safe and accessible housing is essential to the wellbeing of women and their children. • In 2015, Housing ACT updated its Domestic and Family Violence Manual to better reflect contemporary approaches in responding to DFV, and to ensure support and assistance is timely and appropriate to the needs of the person who has been affected by the violence.
Positive	Access to social inclusion/participation and community activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who experience DFV are often isolated by the perpetrator. • The <i>ACT Government response to Family Violence</i> aims to reduce barriers to help-seeking for people who are isolated by delivering more services in new ways.
Positive	Human rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By its very nature, DFV violates the fundamental human rights outlined in the ACT Human Rights Act 2004. • The <i>ACT Government Response to Family Violence</i> aims to protect the rights of all people in the ACT by better enabling them to seek and receive the assistance they need to escape DFV, or seek assistance to stop perpetrating violence.
Positive	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ACT Government acknowledges the impact of family violence on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, their families and communities. The ACT Government is committed to a whole of community approach and working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to address family violence.
Positive	Multicultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People from all cultures are affected by DFV. • The ACT Government recognises that unique barriers to help-seeking exist for culturally and linguistically diverse communities. • The <i>ACT Government Response to Family Violence</i> aims to support all Canberrans to prevent DFV, regardless of their cultural background.

Positive	Impacts on different age groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People of all ages are affected by DFV, including children and older people. • The <i>ACT Government Response to Family Violence</i> aims to support all Canberrans to prevent DFV, regardless of age.
Positive	Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During the co-design of the Family Safety Hub, key research insights were collected to better understand how services can be more accessible, responsive and effective for everyone. • These insights inform the Family Safety Hub's work which is focussed on increasing understanding of domestic violence and its impacts across the system, co-designing and piloting new pathways to safety for people experiencing violence, considering innovative solutions to needs, and reforming the broader system by identifying opportunities for increasing integration and cohesion across the service system. • During this process, women with disability were identified as being one of the least likely groups to access domestic and family violence services.
Positive	Justice and Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family violence is not just a police problem; it's a whole of community problem. By addressing DFV, there will be better justice, policing and community safety outcomes for the ACT. • In October 2015, ACT Policing launched the Family Violence Coordination Unit to ensure officers implement best practice policies and procedures when responding to incidents of family violence. • Training is provided to frontline police officers on legislation reform, and the unit works closely with other police forces across Australia to deliver the best outcomes for victims.

Economic		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations within the ACT Government Response identifies work that relates to early intervention and recovery. • Timely and appropriate interventions could in the long term reduce the costs borne by DFV victims, perpetrators and their families, and future budgetary costs. • Improving the prevention, early intervention, crisis and recovery response of the DFV system through the delivery of <i>ACT Government Response to Family Violence</i> can be expected to have productivity benefits.
Positive	Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ACT Family Safety Hub uses the innovation process to improve understanding of the needs of people experiencing DFV and to identify priority challenges and opportunities for change. • Experts from a variety of backgrounds, sectors and industries get together to drive breakthrough thinking on ways to solve the challenges. People with lived

		<p>experience and those who use or work in the DFV service system test the best ideas to determine their potential.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Family Safety Hub then plans how to scale up and embed the most effective solutions to change the service system for the better. This includes seeking support through government and other channels as appropriate to change traditional responses, make a real difference, and create safety for families and partners.
Positive	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Implementation of The ACT Government Domestic and Family Violence Frontline Worker Training Strategy will develop a consistent language and shared understanding of DFV across the ACT Government which will equip workers with the knowledge and skills to respond to DFV in the workplace in within the community.
Positive	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Implementation of The ACT Government Domestic and Family Violence Frontline Worker Training Strategy will develop a consistent language and shared understanding of DFV across the ACT Government which will equip workers with the knowledge and skills to respond to DFV in the workplace and in the community.

Environmental

Nil impact.