**Directorate: Community Services**

**17/691 Family Safety Hub – model for endorsement**

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| **Summary of Impacts** |
| * The Family Safety Hub will have wide-ranging social impacts for people experiencing domestic and family violence, including for children recovering from trauma and victims rebuilding their lives.
* There is no net impact on the ACT Budget, over the forward estimates.
* The cost of domestic and family violence to the Australian economy is estimated by PwC to be $21.7 billion, annually. Improving the prevention, early intervention, crisis and recovery response of the domestic and family violence system through the Family Safety Hub can therefore be expected to have productivity benefits.
* The Hub will seek to attract co-investment in its innovation projects from the private and philanthropic sectors and will prioritise projects with co-investment potential.
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*Key to impacts: Red - negative, Amber - neutral and Green - positive*

**Social**

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| **Justice and rights** | * One in three Australian women has experienced physical, sexual or emotional abuse by a partner, since the age of 15.
* The impacts of domestic and family violence on women, children, and families are wide-ranging, including early death, disability, long and short-term physical and psychological illness, homelessness, poverty, alcohol abuse and others.
* Intimate partner violence contributes more to the disease burden in women aged 18-44 years than any other risk factor—more than well known risk factors like alcohol use, tobacco use and obesity.
* Addressing domestic and family violence will have a range of positive social impacts for the ACT community.
* The impacts for people of the Family Safety Hub program of work are intended to be:
* families experiencing violence who are seeking alternative pathways to safety are able to stay together and receive culturally-appropriate support;
* victims who are isolated are helped to manage or leave violence by services equipped to identify their needs;
* children impacted by domestic and family violence are kept safe and recover from the impacts of trauma;
* victims trying to escape do not experience systems abuse;
* families at risk receive a service response early so the violence doesn’t escalate;
* people experiencing domestic and family violence are able to have their full needs met by a connected system; and
* victims rebuilding their lives have their financial, housing and psychological needs met.
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**Economic**

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| **ACT Government Budget** | * There is no net impact on the ACT Budget, over the forward estimates.
* The Family Safety Hub is costed at $5.961 million, over four years. There is currently $5.961 million over four years allocated to the Family Safety Hub through the Safer Families Levy, including for a case management and coordination capability to be delivered through the Hub.
* This proposal would see these funds redirected to core delivery of the Family Safety Hub, which will include as a key priority building systemic capability for integrated client support and coordination.
* The original funding was committed before the Family Safety Hub co-design was completed. The Family Safety Hub will deliver on the purpose of the original funds—providing holistic supports to enable victims of domestic and family violence to achieve long-term safety—in new ways, based on the evidence generated through the co-design.
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| **Productivity and innovation** | * The cost of domestic and family violence to the Australian economy is estimated by PwC to be $21.7 billion, annually. State and territory governments bear 10 per cent of the total cost (around $2.2 billion)—comprising health, administration and social welfare costs.
* The cost to victims and perpetrators includes lost productivity, such as the opportunity cost of being unable to attend work due to injury or imprisonment. Employers also incur costs, from paying for leave, to undertaking administration processes.
* Improving the prevention, early intervention, crisis and recovery response of the domestic and family violence system through the Family Safety Hub can therefore be expected to have productivity benefits.
* Through its disciplined innovation process, the Hub will provide a real opportunity for innovation. The Hub co-design revealed that it is only through building the capability to respond across the multiple system entry points, and designing innovative new responses that meet people’s needs, that there will be a real impact for our most vulnerable community members experiencing domestic and family violence.
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| **Investment** | * The Hub will seek to attract co-investment in its innovation projects from the private and philanthropic sectors and will prioritise projects with co-investment potential.
* To date, the proposed Hub has attracted $20,000 of in-kind investment from the Canberra Innovation Network.
* Other domestic and family violence co-investment initiatives, including the ACT Beyond Crisis project, will be accelerated by the Hub. In 2017, the Beyond Crisis project set up a no interest micro-loan facility, attracting $250,000 in investment from local businesses and philanthropists.
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| **Competition** | * Nil.
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**Environmental**

Not applicable