



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DEATH REVIEW TEAM ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
1	<p>That the NSW Police Force review and revise their recruitment and field based domestic violence operational skills training materials to ensure that such materials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) promote a comprehensive understanding and awareness of the broad spectrum of domestic violence behaviours, including non-physical manifestations of domestic violence in the absence of physical indicators; b) include specific training concerning where non-physical domestic violence behaviours manifest as coercive and controlling conduct by the perpetrator; and c) address and acknowledge the professional challenges which officers may experience in the context of responding to domestic violence in the community, in particular responding to repeat offenders and victims of domestic violence. 	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported</p> <p>This work is ongoing. The NSW Police Force regularly updates training materials and provides ongoing training for all officers. The Constable Development Program and the Investigation of Domestic Violence Workshop includes instruction about physical and non-physical behaviours, power and control, and repeat party involvement.</p>
2	<p>That NSW Police Force give consideration to developing a mentoring program whereby Region Domestic Violence coordinators provide strategic support and assistance, to all officers to help acknowledge and address the professional challenges and barriers presented by repeat offenders and victims of domestic violence.</p>	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>NSW Police Force provides mentoring for officers in relation to domestic and family violence through the continued education and training of police.</p>
3	<p>That the NSW Police Force incorporate into its Domestic and Family Violence Risk Identification Tool the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Do the perpetrator and victim continue to cohabitate after the relationship has ended? b) Are there any criminal, family law or other relevant proceedings on foot? 	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>NSW Police Force supports the use of the current Domestic Violence Safety Assessment Tool (DVSAT), to be evaluated in 2017.</p>
4	<p>That the Domestic and Family Violence home page on the NSW Police Force corporate internet site be updated to incorporate a quick close button to facilitate the safe and rapid exit from the webpage.</p>	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported</p> <p>This recommendation has not yet been implemented by the NSW Police Force</p>
5	<p>That the relevant and appropriate NSW Police Force policies and procedures be amended to create a requirement for police to complete a COPS Event in all cases where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Officers make an assessment as to whether an individual needs to be detained under the Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1990 (NSW); or b) Officers issue any directions/provide any advice to a person who is on bail. 	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>NSW Police Force agrees that where police use a power to detain a person subject to the <i>Mental Health (Forensic Provisions) Act 1999</i> then a COPS event should be created. Similarly the <i>Bail Act 2013</i> will require an officer making a bail decision to make records which are recorded in WebCOPS.</p>
6	<p>That the NSW Police Force develop a communication strategy to reiterate to officers the operational requirements set out in the Domestic Violence Standard Operating Procedures, and in particular the requirements that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Officers record all domestic and family violence incidents reported to them; b) Refer all parties involved, who give written consent, to appropriate services; and c) Investigate all domestic and family violence incidents coming to their notice, by gathering background information and physical evidence, including pictures, video recordings, clothing and statements from all victims and witnesses. 	NSW Police Force	<p>Supported</p> <p>This work is ongoing. The NSW Police Force continues to regularly update training materials and provides ongoing training for all officers.</p> <p>Officers are currently instructed to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record all domestic violence incidents reported to them. 2. Complete the Domestic Violence Safety Assessment Tool which will result in an automatic referral to support services. 3. Investigate matters thoroughly and use video evidence where appropriate.

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
7	That the NSW Police Force review and revise both its recruitment and field based domestic violence operational skills training materials to ensure that such materials promote an understanding of kinship systems and an appreciation of the unique challenges that Aboriginal people face when interacting with the legal system.	NSW Police Force	Supported This work is ongoing. The NSW Police Force conducts 'Policing Aboriginal Communities' courses in 41 Local Area Commands around the state. This course specifically includes education on kinship and domestic violence issues.
8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That NSW Police Force and Juvenile Justice (DoJ) co-ordinate to train police officers, and implement procedures whereby in all suitable cases involving bail, the Bail Assistance Line (BAL) is used to arrange appropriate accommodation for young people, particularly in cases involving violent offences and/or offences involving family members. 2. That Juvenile Justice (DoJ) conduct a feasibility study in relation to expanding the BAL to regional centres in NSW. 	NSW Police Force Department of Justice	Supported The service to Police has expanded statewide and BAL now is first point of contact for police out of hours for bail advice and admissions to juvenile justice centres. BAL has revised funding model for accommodation support and is working in closer collaboration with <i>Going Home Staying Home</i> providers for support services.
9	<p>That the NSW Police Force amend its Domestic and Family Violence policy to provide that when any domestic related homicide event occurs, police must notify FACS of any known biological or non-biological surviving children of the deceased or perpetrator (including children who may not be ordinarily resident with the deceased or perpetrator).</p> <p>Once a notification is made, FACS must co-ordinate with agencies including DEC and Victims Services to ensure that counselling and services appropriate to the specific trauma experience, the age and geographic location of the child/ren is made available to those children in a timely fashion.</p> <p>Victims Services, DEC and FACS should co-ordinate to develop a strategy and additional support services tailored for this group of child victims, in cases where their families or carers are reluctant to engage with counselling and support services.</p>	NSW Police Force, Department of Family and Community Services, Department of Education and Communities, Department of Justice (Victims Services)	Supported The NSW Police Force is currently undertaking a review of the Domestic and Family Violence Standard Operating Procedure which will include the requirement for police to notify FACS of any known surviving children of the deceased or perpetrator in the event of a domestic related homicide. Victims Services NSW continues to work closely with FACS to ensure all referrals for surviving children of domestic violence homicide victims or perpetrators receive a timely and appropriate response. This includes a referral to an appropriate counsellor, made within 48 hours of a referral to Victims Services as well as an assessment for immediate needs, economic loss and/or recognition payments. Victims Services has provided detailed guidance to FACS to ensure all applications submitted on behalf of surviving children are complete and can be expedited through the assessment process. Victims Services and FACS meet every two months to ensure that this referral process is working and to discuss any issues that may arise.
10	<p>That NSW Health co-ordinate the development and implementation of a systematic domestic violence identification and referral strategy for the Ambulance Service of NSW and all NSW Emergency Departments. The strategy should include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The development of policies and procedures by NSW Health to ensure that timely and effective information exchange occurs between NSW Ambulance staff and Emergency Department staff to facilitate the identification of and response to injuries sustained from domestic violence. b) The adoption and implementation by NSW Health of the proposed NSW Government Domestic and Family Violence Reforms to facilitate the identification of high-risk victims who have sustained injuries resulting from domestic violence, in particular the Risk Assessment and Management Project, which includes a standardized Risk Identification Tool (RIT) and referral (through Emergency Department Social Work Teams) to Safety Action Meetings (SAMs) when a victim(s) is identified as 'high-risk'. c) The development and implementation of a policy promoting and facilitating the discharge of patients into a safe 	NSW Health	Supported NSW Kids and Families is in the process of reviewing the current NSW Health Policy Directive <i>PD2006_084 Domestic Violence - Identifying and Responding</i> . This policy will apply to all NSW Health services, including the Ambulance Service of NSW and hospital Emergency Departments. The revised policy will give clear direction regarding the importance of information exchange by NSW Health workers to support the care of children, young people and adults who have experienced domestic violence, and the importance of referral to SAMs where a victim is at serious threat who presents to any NSW Health service, including the Ambulance Service of NSW and hospital Emergency Departments. The revised Domestic and Family Violence policy will include the importance of

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
	<p>environment free from domestic violence – which recommends that those patients suspected of sustaining injuries as a result of domestic violence receive the <i>Domestic Violence Hurts Your Health Z-Card</i>, produced by the Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV). This policy may incorporate the provision of referral information where necessary, including in relation to emergency accommodation and other services.</p>		<p>safe and confidential referral to appropriate services within and external to NSW Health, and will promote use of the Domestic Violence Hurts Your Health Z-Card with domestic violence information. The z-cards are available in 17 languages, are offered to all women at the time of screening and explain a range of behaviours that constitute domestic and family violence.</p> <p>NSW Health considers the Domestic Violence Safety Assessment Tool currently being rolled out as part of the NSW Safer Pathway is too long for use given the time constraints that characterise Emergency Departments. NSW Kids and Families is planning work with two NSW Emergency Departments as part of a review of the Domestic Violence Routine Screening tool. The Emergency Department project will trial a shorter, 5 question risk assessment tool. This tool will still identify clients at High Risk and can be used to guide referral into broader Safer Pathway initiatives including Safety Action Meetings. Trials of Domestic Violence Routine Screening in these two sites are currently under negotiation and will be evaluated with a view to future roll out throughout NSW Emergency Departments.</p>
11	<p>1. That NSW Kids and Families, NSW Health, liaises with Priority Programs, Integrated Care, Ministry of Health on the planned review of its Policy Directive <i>Interpreters - Standard Procedures for Working with Health Care Interpreters (PD 2006_053)</i>, to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Wherever possible, the patient is consulted as to their preferences for a translator in relation to gender; and b) All patients are made aware of their right to an accredited interpreter who has professional obligations to uphold patient confidentiality and impartiality. <p>2. That NSW Kids and Families, NSW Health, in undertaking a review of <i>Domestic Violence - Identifying and Responding [PD2005_413]</i>, enhances policies and procedures to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Prior to any domestic violence screening being undertaken, information about domestic violence is provided to women being screening in her own language (for instance, the DV 'Z'-Card published by ECAV) where possible; b) Wherever possible the medical professional, through an appropriate interpreter, discusses with the patient the range of behaviours that may constitute domestic violence, as well as asking questions of the patient in a way which respects her culture; and c) Medical professionals use accredited interpreters who are trained and adhere to standards of confidentiality and impartiality to reduce the potential for, and/or identify power imbalances or issues arising between the patient being screened and the interpreter (for example, ethnic conflict between the interpreter and patient, conflict on the basis of age or gender; confidentiality issues). 	<p>NSW Health,(NSW Kids and Families, Ministry of Health)</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>1. NSW Kids and Families will contribute expert domestic and family violence representation to the review of <i>Policy Directive Interpreters - Standard Procedures for Working with Health Care Interpreters (PD 2006_053)</i> when it commences. NSW Kids and Families will make contact with Priority Programs, Integrated Care as a matter of priority and offer policy review support.</p> <p>NSW Kids and Families notes that the number of available translators in some areas may make it difficult to fulfill gender preference requests by clients, however we will support it wherever practicable.</p> <p>NSW Kids and Families notes that the Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) provides high quality training relating to domestic and family violence free of charge to all NSW Health interpreters, however there is no current requirement for accredited interpreters to receive such training, which we would recommend as part of the accreditation process.</p> <p>2. NSW Health conducts domestic violence routine screening for all women attending antenatal services; all women attending child and family health services; women aged 16 years and over who attend mental health services, and women aged 16 and over who attend alcohol and other drugs services. NSW Health provides Domestic Violence Hurts Your Health Z cards with domestic violence information, free of charge to all NSW Health DVRS services. The Z-cards are available in 17 languages. The Z-cards explain a range of behaviours that constitute domestic and family violence.</p> <p>Contextual information about domestic and family violence is given prior to screening, via an appropriately accredited or professional interpreter where appropriate. The Z card is offered at the end of this process to ensure that</p>

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
			<p>carrying the information will not place the patient at any further risk, and to ensure the patient understands the information.</p> <p>PD2006_084 <i>Domestic Violence - Identifying and Responding</i> replaced PD2005_413. The current <i>Domestic Violence - Identifying and Responding</i> policy is now under review and is due for completion in 2015/16. The current policy contains requirements for the use, wherever possible, of accredited interpreters during Domestic Violence Routine Screening (DVRS). This provision will be maintained in the review process.</p> <p>NSW Health notes that the screening and information is provided by a range of NSW Health workers, rather than by 'medical professionals'.</p> <p>Workshops are available through ECAV for Health workers and Health interpreters in responding to domestic violence to ensure a culturally sensitive and competent response. These courses are free for interpreters and are heavily subsidized or free for other Health workers. The specific training for Health interpreters address issues including responding in a trauma informed approach to practice, ethnic conflict between the interpreter and patient, conflict on the basis of age or gender; confidentiality issues and vicarious trauma.</p>
12	That the National Accreditation Agency for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) encourage development programs for practitioners certified by it to receive training in relation to the dynamics and behaviours of domestic violence including as part of continuing professional development.	Community Relations Commission (now Multicultural NSW) (NAATI)	Supported
13	That the Community Relations Commission incorporate into its induction training for all interpreters and translators a mandatory unit in relation to the dynamics and behaviours of domestic violence.	Community Relations Commission (now Multicultural NSW)	<p>Since 2006, Multicultural NSW has collaborated with the Education Centre Against Violence (ECAV) to provide training for interpreters in the area of domestic violence and sexual assault.</p> <p>Multicultural NSW has committed to including key elements of the training in its induction program for new interpreters commencing from the beginning of 2016.</p>
14	<p>1. That the Law Society of New South Wales develop and host on its website information to assist practicing solicitors to make appropriate referrals in response to domestic and family violence disclosures or allegations made by clients in the context of the provision of legal advice. Once launched, this information needs to be publicised through Monday Briefs and the Law Society Journal; and</p> <p>2. That the Specialist Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committees for Children's Law, Criminal Law, Dispute Resolution and Family Law, give consideration to including the identification of and response to domestic and family violence disclosures or allegations in the assessments to be set for the Scheme in 2014 and 2015.</p>	<p>Government lead: Department of Justice – to work with:</p> <p>Law Society,</p> <p>Specialist Accreditation Scheme Advisory Committees for Children's Law, Criminal Law, Dispute Resolution and Family Law</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>The Department of Justice has written to the Law Society seeking its views and a response to the recommendations. The Law Society of NSW provided a response advising the following:</p> <p><u>Recommendation 14(1)</u> Legal Aid NSW publishes a factsheet that has information on services that can assist people in domestic violence situations, including contact details for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Women's Domestic Violence Court Advocacy Program · LawAccess NSW · NSW Police Force · Department of Community Services Domestic Violence Line · Mensline · National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline · Safe Relationships Project

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
			<p>The Legal Aid website also includes links to other resources about domestic violence, including domestic and family violence guidelines for lawyers and family violence best practice principles published by the Family Court: http://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/for-lawyers/resources-and-tools/domestic-violence</p> <p>Links to the factsheet and the Legal Aid website were published in Monday Briefs on 30 November 2015. The Criminal Law and Family Issues sections of the Law Society's website have also been amended to include these links.</p> <p>Legal Aid NSW has also written an article for the February 2016 edition of the Law Society Journal about initiatives and services it provides for victims of domestic violence. The Law Society also reproduced the referral factsheet alongside this article.</p> <p><u>Recommendation 14(2)</u></p> <p>The DVDRT's recommendations, and links to the factsheet and other information on the Legal Aid Website, were included in the Specialist Accreditation Newsletter on 11 December 2015. The Newsletter is sent to all practitioners who have obtained accreditation under the scheme.</p> <p>The following areas of law will be offered as part of the Law Society's 2016 Specialist Accreditation Program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Dispute Resolution · Employment and Industrial Law · Government and Administrative Law · Immigration Law · Local Government and Planning Law · Personal Injury Law <p>The assessment for the Dispute Resolution program will be amended to include the identification of and response to domestic violence disclosures in 2016. The assessment for Children's Law, Criminal Law and Family Law will be updated when and if these areas of law are offered as part of the 2017 Specialist Accreditation program.</p>
15	<p>That the NSW Judicial Commission develop and implement training and guidelines for all NSW judicial officers in relation to domestic and family violence, which:</p> <p>a) promotes awareness and understanding in relation to the dynamics of domestic violence and the broad spectrum of relationships that may be characterised by such violence; and</p> <p>b) emphasises and supports the use of a common language in relation to domestic violence that does not minimise violence.</p>	<p>NSW Judicial Commission (Department of Justice to monitor)</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>Department of Justice has written to the Judicial Commission seeking their views and response to the recommendations. The NSW Judicial Commission provided a response advising the following:</p> <p>The Judicial Commission of NSW offers a conference and seminar program for judicial officers in each court, ranging from induction courses for new appointees to specialist conferences. As part of this curriculum, the Commission has been providing special seminars on the topic of domestic and family violence both as stand-alone sessions and part of the conference</p>

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
			<p>programs. Presentation of conference papers covering domestic violence, sexual assault and sentencing in domestic violence matters has been a high priority for the Education Committees of each court. This training is focused on assisting judicial officers with keeping up to date with current developments in specific aspects of the law and legal procedure relating to domestic and family violence and also serves to maintain their awareness of continuing developments in dealing with domestic violence in court.</p> <p>One such example is a seminar entitled "Dealing with domestic violence in court" presented by His Honour Magistrate Leslie Mabbutt and Her Honour Magistrate Vivien Swain, Local Court of NSW on 12th November 2015. This session explored a range of issues relating to domestic violence cases, and took participants through the progress of a case from start to finish, including bail, evidence and service of brief. Another is "Managing AVO applications" presented by Her Honour Magistrate Jaqueline Trad, Local Court of NSW, on 29th April 2015, which explored some of the issues that arise in relation to apprehended violence orders and examined some techniques for the effective and efficient management of applications from first mention to finalisation.</p> <p>Throughout 2015, efforts have been made to enhance training in the understanding of family violence, its impact on victims and children, and good practice in its management by the court, including judicial commentary. To this end, the Judicial Commission's education program also includes ongoing training and resources in addressing sentencing principles and guidelines. Case studies addressing use of a common language and domestic violence relationship dynamics will be developed for inclusion in the annual Local Court of NSW Magistrates Orientation Program for 2016.</p> <p>Magistrates have also been, and continue to be, provided with regular training and education in domestic violence through updates to Bench Books relating to legal developments on domestic violence.</p> <p>To ensure that the Commission is kept abreast of current and emerging issues in this area, the Commission's staff attend various Department of Justice meetings, including those conducted by the Apprehended Violence Legal Issues Coordinating Committee, the DVEC Reforms Monitoring Group and convenors of the Behavioural Insights Domestic Violence Project.</p>
16	<p>That the Fertility Society of Australia (FSA) together with the Australian and New Zealand Infertility Counsellors Association (ANZICA) and the Fertility Nurses of Australasia (FNA) develop a communication strategy to ensure that practitioners providing assisted reproductive services (including doctors, nurses and counsellors) give due consideration to identifying and providing appropriate referral information to clients who are experiencing or demonstrating domestic violence behaviours.</p>	<p>Government lead: NSW Health – to work with:</p> <p>Fertility Society of Australia (FSA), Australian and New Zealand Infertility Counsellors Association (ANZICA) and the Fertility Nurses of Australasia (FNA)</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>NSW Kids and Families will contact the Fertility Society of Australia, the Australian and New Zealand Infertility Counsellors Association and the Fertility Nurses of Australasia in the first half of 2016 to discuss the potential for implementing domestic violence routine screening into assisted reproductive services and to highlight the resources available through NSW Health relating to domestic and family violence (including z-cards).</p>

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
17	<p>In order to facilitate the implementation of Recommendation 10 from the NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team Annual Report (2011/2012), the Team recommends that the Office of Communities (DEC) expand the <i>Tackling Violence</i> program into 5 new regional locations and develop a model for implementation in the western suburbs of Sydney for possible future explanation in other Sydney metro areas.</p> <p><i>Tackling Violence</i> is a successful and evaluated education and prevention program that uses regional rugby league clubs to deliver anti domestic violence messages. The program is supported by the NSW and Australian Governments and led by the Office of Communities.</p> <p>The initiative should also aim to fulfil the functions outlined in Recommendation 10 of that Report, including to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) improve awareness and identification of domestic violence behaviours (including non-physical and emotional abuse); and b) encourage friends, family and neighbours to report domestic violence. <p>This work should involve working in partnership with key stakeholders including local council, sporting and voluntary groups and Aboriginal communities.</p> <p>Office of Communities should co-ordinate with Women NSW to promote the positive evaluation findings from this initiative.</p>	Department of Education and Communities	<p>Supported</p> <p>The <i>Tackling Violence</i> program is now part of Women NSW.</p> <p>In 2011/12 there were 21 teams in the <i>Tackling Violence</i> program. The program grew to 28 clubs in 2014 including two metropolitan clubs (Redfern All Blacks and East Campbelltown Eagles).</p> <p>The program was evaluated again in 2014 by Eva Cox and Jumbunna House of Indigenous Learning and recommended for continuation and expansion.</p> <p>In 2015, the Commonwealth Government funding ceased, reducing the number of clubs, schools and communities from 28 to 19. The localised regional TV advertising campaign, which featured local men from the footy clubs, was also reduced from six regional ads to one statewide ad.</p> <p>The program curriculum is comprehensive and includes discussion about what domestic and family violence is, who it effects, what the law is, what a domestic and family violent relationship looks like, healthy relationships, bystanders and how to get help or help someone you know.</p> <p>More than 50 per cent of player participants are Aboriginal.</p>
18	<p>That as a part of the Aboriginal Child Youth and Family Strategy, FACS develops and implement a trauma-informed parenting program aimed at educating and supporting Aboriginal fathers. Consideration could be given to co-ordinating with the Office of Community Services for rollout of this program through the initiative discussed in Recommendation 17.</p>	Department of Family and Community Services, in consultation with Department of Education and Communities	<p>Supported</p> <p>The NSW Aboriginal Child, Youth and Family Strategy (ACYFS) is a prevention and early intervention strategy that aims to provide Aboriginal families with children the best start in life.</p> <p>The strategy has a particular focus on supporting Aboriginal families expecting a baby or with children aged up to five years. Current activities include parenting programs, supported playgroups, capacity building.</p> <p>In addition, the Aboriginal Child and Family Centres (ACFCs) provide integrated and culturally appropriate targeted services to Aboriginal children, families and communities. Services include Parenting and Family Support, Parent/family information resources, parenting and family skills development, counselling services and other related activities.</p> <p>FACS (Families and Place) will undertake consultation with appropriate stakeholders to ascertain the appropriateness – both procedurally and culturally – about the development of a targeted trauma-informed parenting program aimed at Aboriginal fathers. Consultation will be enhanced with an appropriate scoping exercise to identify existing services, needs analysis and other elements to complement the development of such a program.</p>
19	<p>That NSW DEC include specific domestic and family violence and referral information on its department homepage,</p>	Department of Education and Communities	<p>Supported and completed.</p>

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
	<p>providing clear and intuitive links to information for both:</p> <p>a) students, if they are experiencing or being exposed to domestic violence within the home, and/or they are aware that someone they know is being exposed to or experiencing domestic violence; and</p> <p>b) parents, if they are experiencing domestic violence.</p>		
20	<p>That NSW Health, DEC and NSW Department of Attorney General and Justice coordinate to prioritise the provision of domestic and family violence information (including referral information) on their various intranet home pages through an easily accessible portal. It is suggested that these agencies work in connection with Women NSW to formulate each information and referral portal, or link to the following portal: www.domesticviolence.nsw.gov.au. This should be undertaken as a priority within the next 12 months.</p>	<p>NSW Health, Department of Education and Communities, Department of Justice, Department of Family and Community Services</p>	<p>Supported and completed.</p>
21	<p>That FACS develop, incorporate and prioritise on the Seniors Card NSW website a module outlining information about domestic and family violence including intimate partner violence and elder abuse (including referral information).</p>	<p>Department of Family and Community Services</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>NSW Seniors Card has recently released a new website that is focused on pulling together content to better inform seniors in NSW and will be dedicating a page under the Health section of the new website called Personal and Family Safety that will include information on domestic and family violence including partner and elder abuse, this will also include referral information to assist seniors.</p>
22	<p>That the NSW Steering Committee on the Prevention of Abuse of Older People, through Women NSW, report to the NSW Domestic Violence Death Review Team in relation to the use of the NSW Elder Abuse Helpline and Resource Unit (EAHRU).</p> <p>This information should be contained in a report which includes:</p> <p>a) demographic information of users;</p> <p>b) nature of enquiry/service being sought;</p> <p>c) any details of the abuse being experienced (including relationships); and</p> <p>d) outcomes and referrals made in each case.</p>	<p>Women NSW to work with:</p> <p>NSW Steering Committee on the Prevention of Abuse of Older People and Women NSW</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>The NSW Steering Committee on the Prevention of Abuse of Older People was convened as a time-limited committee. Women NSW will work with the NSW Elder Abuse Helpline and Resource Unit to develop a report.</p>
23	<p>That the Cancer Institute, NSW Health, in consultation with NSW Kids and Families, NSW Health, implement the distribution of domestic violence information to every women in NSW who has a mammogram.</p>	<p>NSW Health (Cancer Institute), NSW Kids and Families</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>NSW Kids and Families will liaise in 2015/16 with the Cancer Institute, NSW Health, to support the recommendation that all women in NSW receiving a mammogram safely receive information relating to domestic and family violence.</p> <p>NSW Kids and Families notes that this will likely be in the form of the provision of Domestic Violence z-cards produced by ECAV, and note that there will be a cost impact incurred as a result of the increased distribution.</p> <p>BreastScreen NSW has recognised there are several health and social issues that are pertinent to older women and for which BreastScreen NSW may be a channel for the provision of information. BreastScreen NSW is in the process of working with its Screening and Assessment Services to develop a policy on</p>

No.	RECOMMENDATION	LEAD AGENCY	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
			<p>the passive dissemination to BreastScreen NSW clients of health-related information that is not directly related to breast cancer.</p> <p>The policy is necessarily one of passive dissemination, as BreastScreen staff do not have the skills or training to provide advice on health and social matters that do not pertain to breast cancer screening, or to respond to enquiries on such issues.</p> <p>The policy will include formal referral pathways, to ensure BreastScreen NSW staff can refer women to appropriate services. It will also contain principles for evaluating materials and information to ensure they are of a high standard and do not produce unintended consequences, such as increasing the anxiety of women attending screening or assessment or deterring women from participating in the program.</p> <p>As domestic violence has been identified as a national and state priority, it would be appropriate to include it within the policy.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that only 51% of the 50-74 year old NSW population currently routinely participates in the program. In addition, victims of domestic violence may be less inclined to utilise community health services than other women, which may further limit the potential for BreastScreen to provide this group with information.</p>