



Submission to the Victorian third Rolling Action Plan

Strong Foundations: Building on Victoria's work to end family violence.

Acknowledgment of Country

No to Violence acknowledges First Nations Peoples across these lands; the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters. We pay respect to all Elders, past, present, and emerging. We acknowledge a deep connection with country which has existed over 60,000 years. We acknowledge that sovereignty was never ceded, and this was and always will be First Nation's land.

About No to Violence

No to Violence (NTV) is the peak body for the men's family violence sector in Victoria and Australia's largest national peak body representing organisations and individuals working with men to end family violence. We are guided by the values of accountability, gender equity, leadership, and change.

NTV provides support and advocacy for the work of specialist men's family violence interventions carried out by organisations and individuals. The work undertaken by specialist men's family violence services is diverse and includes but is not limited to Men's Behaviour Change Programs (MBCPs), case management, individual counselling, policy development and advocacy, research and evaluation, training, workforce development and capability building.

NTV also provides a range of training for the specialist men's family violence workforce including a Graduate Certificate in partnership with Swinburne University, as well as professional development for workforces who come into contact, directly and indirectly, with men using family violence. NTV is a leading national voice and plays a central role in the development of evidence, policy, and advocacy to support the work of specialist men's family violence nationally.

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Executive summary

The Victim Survivors' Advocacy Council's powerful statement at the beginning of 'Stronger Foundations' argues men must be 'part of the solution' to ending family violence – No to Violence echo their words. Their statement emphasises the need to end family violence for not only people who use violence, but also 'the systems and institutions which are supposed to protect and support' victim-survivors. The Victim Survivors' Advocacy Council contend, breaking the cycle of violence requires including men in the work to end family violence, an acknowledging of the role of trauma and providing of 'opportunities for healing and recovery'.

In this submission, No to Violence:

- reiterate and respond to what victim-survivors say they need from the men's family violence sector;
- spotlight practice-based evidence from our member organisations working with men to end family violence; and
- build on our responses to the 'Stronger Foundations' online survey.

No to Violence welcomes the Victorian Government's focus on people who use violence in *Strong Foundations*, but more emphasis is urgently needed on '**how**' we stop people using violence. No to Violence believes **there needs to be a radical change** in how we - as a society, at the individual, community, and government level - respond to people using violence. In this submission we offer thoughts on the pathway forward that we hope will guide the development of the third Rolling Action Plan.

No to Violence Submission

Disrupting pathways into violence

Early intervention programs with children and young people are key to ‘reduce the long-term impacts of exposure to violence and prevent further exposure’¹.

Research shows that most children and young people using violence are also victim-survivors of family and/or sexual violence themselves². We also know that their use of violence is often retaliatory and/or conditioned by the violence they have experienced.

Member Insight

‘It’s going to take a variation of services – because every child, every young person is different.’

It is important that children and young people are not labelled as perpetrators and a therapeutic approach to intervention is taken to support healing and behaviour change.

Aligned with best practice established through ANROWS’ PIPA and WRAP studies, interventions with children and young people need to be whole-of-family approaches that are trauma and family violence risk-informed. It is crucial that trauma from previous and ongoing adult-perpetrated violence is addressed. Service responses to children and young people need to be flexible and needs-based, which could include providing greater outreach and brokerage to build rapport and meet children and young people where they are at. Services need to address barriers to engagement, such as family shame and stigma, and flexibly adapt to the needs of young people and families, including adopting outreach approaches that develop trust and responding to readiness of clients.

The Victorian government should pursue alternatives to criminal justice responses to children and young people’s use of violence as these often-hinder recovery from family violence. Prioritise

¹ Commonwealth of Australia (2022) ‘National Plan to End Violence against Women and Girls’, Department of Social Services, Commonwealth of Australia

² Campbell et al., “WRAP around families experiencing AVITH: Towards a collaborative service response,” (2023), 41. <https://anrowsdev.wpenginepowered.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/RP.20.01-Campbell-RR1-WRAP-AVITH-1.pdf>

wraparound, whole-of-family responses that keep the needs, experiences, and behaviours of all family members in sight to support safer family functioning.

Creating pathways away from violence

Men and boys are not a homogenous group. There is not one path away from family violence; there is no one-size-fits-all approach. We cannot police our way out of this problem and there is no one-stop-shop response for every person using violence.

‘Addressing cyclical and intergenerational violence must be a priority, since we know that many people who use violence have been victims of violence themselves during childhood’³

Member insight

We need ‘trauma informed practice and addressing the trauma that people have experienced, acknowledging it and working through it, enabling people to process that trauma...

I think in the family violence space, **a lot of perpetrators are impacted by trauma** and for a lot of perpetrators, **their behaviours are a manifestation of that trauma** – particularly for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community where they have experienced **so much social and historical and cultural trauma**. The impacts are significant.’

We all respond in this really acute way when we see family violence, and it’s all around case management, creating safety – and we need to be doing that work; but **there’s this whole other piece of work** that is around looking at and **addressing the trauma** [...] That’s how we start to create a **generational change** process.’

Realising the vision of the National Plan to End Violence Against Women and Children (2022-2032) requires all jurisdictions to have a plan for engaging with people using violence across prevention, early intervention, response and recovery and healing.

There is concern the status-quo approach **does not go far enough**, and, in some cases, **may even be causing more harm**. For example, by encouraging men to over-identify with masculinity, including ‘healthy masculinities’ and limit men’s commitment to challenging unequal power relations.

Many men need to develop the emotional and relational skills to develop equitable and respectful relationships with women in all areas of their lives – especially while misogynist hate groups actively

³ Department of Social Services (2023) [First Action Plan 2023–2027 Under the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022–2032](#).

seek to dehumanise women and incite violence against them. Men’s accountability for preventing violence requires a relational focus where the benefits of ending violence are articulated for men, including the benefit to whole communities.⁴

To end violence in a generation, we need a broad suite of interventions working across prevention, early intervention, response, recovery, and healing.

We urgently need diverse and multi-pronged approaches for engaging men and boys of different ages, cultural backgrounds, sexualities, those with multiple and complex needs, and men who are marginalised, especially those experiencing multiple and overlapping forms of structural discrimination e.g. racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, and transphobia. Men’s Behaviour Change Programs are an important part of a suite of interventions for working with men who use family violence – however, they are not a one-stop-shop for every person using violence.

A wide range of targeted interventions is necessary if we are to reflect and respond to the wide range of men using violence; this includes one-to-one interventions, such as case management, for men where complex factors overlap with their use of violence – for example, the use of alcohol and other drugs, presence of mental ill-health, cognitive impairment, and/or other issues.

We need to develop a range of pathways out of violence.

These include ensuring there is a wide range of effective, appropriate, and timely interventions, such as telephone counselling, group work, online interventions, residential-based approaches, whole-of-family solutions, and Aboriginal healing-focused initiatives.⁵

No to Violence advocates for targeted interventions prioritising Aboriginal-led and/or anti-racist approaches, holistic, healing, and whole-of-family approaches.^{6 7}

⁴ Hewson-Munro, S. & McCook, S. (2023) [Working Together with Men 2.0](#).

⁵ See No to Violence, [Referral Pathways tool](#) for examples.

⁶ See for example research on the impact of grassroots community-based responses used in tandem with therapeutic dogs: Jarldorn, Michele (2020) [“The Thing About Animals Is They Are Not Judgemental”: Stories and Images from Formerly Incarcerated Women About Their Relationships with Companion Animals](#).

⁷ See Cunneen and Tauri (2016) [Reconceptualising Sentencing and Punishment From an Indigenous Perspective](#).

ACCO member request



'We have a cohort of clients who are **disconnected from culture and country** – part of our case management is to **help them find their families and return to country**.

That is part of healing and recovering from the trauma. It is all in one parcel of support...

We are not funded to do that - we do it because we know that that's what works [and] changes people. Getting funded to do that [work] would be wonderful.'

Emerging evidence supports the development and implementation of longer-term, holistic interventions to ensure real change⁸. This needs to be matched by long-term funding for case management and counselling to provide more holistic and trauma-informed care. **Innovative programs need ongoing funding for evaluation to build the evidence base of what works and come with minimum 3-year contracts.** Innovative programs need time to learn and grow and establish the evaluation necessary to understand the impact of the program.

We need government support to develop and embed 1-1 therapeutic work, case management, whole-of-family, specific programmes for different cohorts of men: like the important work happening in Victoria for serious-risk offenders.

Member insight



For complex cases, group work is not suitable, we need '1-1 counselling that has a therapeutic focus not case management.

[We need] funding for 1-1 counselling - instead of us having to us brokerage to fund our work.

...They might have multiple and complex needs - housing, mental health, use of alcohol and other drugs.

They might have complexities around them that can be supported through case management - but **settle in with them, build their capacity for emotional regulation** and to comfortably talk about these things - about family violence, their attitudes and beliefs – without eliciting a really strong emotional response.'

⁸ See Bell and Coates (2022) The effectiveness of interventions for perpetrators of domestic and family violence: An overview of findings from reviews, Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety, Research Report WW.22.02/1

Victim-survivor safety would be improved by strengthening accommodation and counselling supports for men who use violence. An example of innovation in the men’s family violence sector is the Men’s Accommodation and Counselling Service (MACS), operated by No to Violence in partnership with The Salvation Army in Victoria. MACS keeps men who have used family violence in view through provision of secure accommodation coupled with counselling support—while victim-survivors remain supported and safe in their homes.

ACCO member request



‘We would like to see housing options for men in First Nations communities - not just accommodation for men but also a space/place to receive education and support to understand the harm of their use of violence.

Refuges aren’t a long-term solution - the number of people who are homeless because of family violence is increasing.

We need to be able to support women staying at home and their children staying at home’.

A lack of safe, accessible, and affordable housing support for both women and children, and men who use violence, significantly exacerbates victim-survivor risk and safety. The recent and ongoing rental housing crisis has demonstrated the heartbreaking realities facing victim-survivors experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity due to domestic and family violence – forcing victim-survivors to choose between safety and shelter and stripping them of autonomy and dignity.

The economic burden of choosing between safety and shelter: an unacceptable cost to victim-survivors:

- **If all 311,000 Victorian victim-survivors⁹ of cohabiting partner violence needed to leave their home and seek safety the total cost to Victorian victim-survivors would be approximately \$7.13 billion.¹⁰**
 - The Australian Services Union NSW branch estimated that the cost of leaving an abusive relationship is \$18,250 and 141 hours (or \$4,680.83 at \$33.19/hour) = a total cost of \$22,930.82 per victim-survivor.¹¹

⁹ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2023) [Personal Safety, Australia](#): Cohabiting partner violence, emotional abuse, and economic abuse.

¹⁰ Australian Council of Trade Unions (2018) [Submission to Inquiry into the provisions of the Fair Work Amendment \(Family and Domestic Violence Leave\) Bill](#); Australian Bureau of Statistics (2023) [Personal Safety, Australia](#): Cohabiting partner violence, emotional abuse, and economic abuse.

¹¹ Australian Council of Trade Unions (2018) [Submission to Inquiry into the provisions of the Fair Work Amendment \(Family and Domestic Violence Leave\) Bill](#); Australian Bureau of Statistics (2024) [Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia](#): All females, average weekly total cash earnings.

We cannot rely on a policing and prisons response to keep victim-survivors safe.

- Victorian Police respond to **12.5 people using violence for every victim-survivor in Victoria** – or 27% of all policing (**estimated \$1.08 billion/year**).¹²
- It costs **\$502.61/day to keep a person incarcerated in Victoria or \$366,905.30 for each person serving an average assault sentence**.¹³
 - There were 24,626 FDV related proceedings in Victoria – 54% with primary charges of assault.¹⁴
 - The average sentence length for assault in Victoria is 2.5 years.¹⁵

To develop the range of pathways out of violence, beyond policing and prison responses, we need a diverse, effective suite of interventions that meets the needs of people using violence and the specialist practitioners who work with them.

Interventions need to be timely. Practitioners know **there are windows of opportunity** when men seek help to make a change, to stop using violence. Too often, opportunities are lost because of the lack of available, appropriate, and effective services.

Member insight 

‘We have long assessment waitlists, long group waitlists. I don’t want men to drop off - if we cannot catch them when they’re ready to change, we will lose them.’

Supporting specialised work

We need a strong, sustainable, specialist sector to do this work.

This requires adequate funding for services working with people using violence to recruit and retain staff that can meet growing demand and ensure knowledge and experience cumulates in the workforce

¹² Australian Bureau of Statistics (2024) [Recorded Crime – Offenders](#); Family and domestic violence statistics; Australian Bureau of Statistics (2023) [Personal Safety, Australia](#); Department of Treasury and Finance (2023) [Budget Paper No. 3: Service Delivery](#).

¹³ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2024) [Prisoners in Australia](#); Productivity Commission (2022) [Report on Government Services: Corrective services](#).

¹⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2024) [Recorded Crime – Offenders](#); Family and domestic violence statistics.

¹⁵ Australian Bureau of Statistics (2024) [Prisoners in Australia](#).

to improve the sector's capacity to respond. Long-term contracts that support service providers to strengthen the workforce, including by marked funding for evaluation, external and internal supervision, family safety contact work, and reflective practice.

ACCO Member insights 

'These services will be working with the most complex families – those who have experienced the **most and the highest levels of trauma and violence**, with people who have experienced the **cumulative effects of violence and trauma**.

...People [are employed to do this work] with very limited experience and **they didn't know what to do with the complexity of the families**. These services were established to keep children safe so it was a major concern.

...**We have to have the skills, knowledge and experience** [to be] advising and sitting around the table in these discussions...– to inform some of the best practice that needs to happen. When you're dealing with this level of risk, this is critical.'

Given the high rate of underreporting of family violence, we know that men using violence often do not come to the attention of specialist services until the level of violence escalates. **Universal services need to be supported to identify and respond to family violence, including information about where to refer people using violence.** Due to the large number of interactions people have with universal services, improving their risk assessment and referral processes can significantly improve the level and timeliness of support that Victorians experiencing family and sexual violence receive.

Funding must reflect the real cost of delivering services. Current funding for family violence services has not been sufficient to address increasing demand, while a lack of longer-term program funding has restricted the capacity of the sector to retain staff and support professional development. Sustainable funding would cover the following (non-exhaustive) list of expenses: staffing costs; clinical supervision; family safety contact work; training and professional development; responding to legislative and policy reforms; data collection, reporting and information sharing; inter-service collaboration; and administrative costs. The men's family violence sector is chronically underfunded, and this undermines the important role we play in helping to shift the burden of responsibility onto people who choose to use violence.

Member insight 

‘**Funding model is rigid** – we have funding for facilitators, we have funding for case managers, [...but] our roles as facilitators and case managers can actually blur.

...It would probably **be better if they were a little more blurred**, because then you’ve got one worker working with a client in group and potentially in case management, as opposed **to just shooting everyone out to different workers and them re-telling their stories again and again.**’

Service contracts must embed workforce support and development. Members have told us that these perennial funding issues have meant that they have been unable to support their workforce without self-funding critical professional development, supervision, and wellbeing initiatives. Some of our members tell us that they have had to self-fund mechanisms to ensure that their workplaces are trauma-informed and culturally safe. However, the resources required to build these mechanisms are not built into funding contracts.

Specialist practitioner insight 

‘Funding constraints create an environment where specialist family violence counsellors are plunged into constant uncertainty.

The quality of our work is impacted when counsellors are left wondering if we still have a job in 6 months or a year. **If the quality of our work decreases, however, the risk to victim-survivors safety goes up.** As counsellors, we are left in an impossible situation – balancing our wellbeing needs to avoid burnout and the safety of victim-survivors.’

These funding and contract improvements will enable workforce improvements. **Funding certainty creates the conditions necessary for specialist staff to thrive.** When services cannot retain experienced staff knowledge flows out of the sector and less experienced staff are left without the support of experienced colleagues.

We need to create **pathways for culturally and racially marginalised people to enter the family violence workforce**, especially those with a second and third language. To re-iterate the tri-peaks (No to Violence, Safe and Equal and Sexual Assault Services Victoria) industry plan feedback, there needs to be increased diversity across the workforce, so that the workforce reflects and can better respond to the communities accessing family violence and sexual assault services. Building a more diverse workforce will improve our ability to engage and respond to family violence occurring across a range of culturally and racially marginalised communities.

On bringing new people into the workforce, the tri-peaks (No to Violence, Safe and Equal and Sexual Assault Services Victoria) industry plan feedback emphasised the potential **for cross-sector graduate programs to involve rotations across services; flexible traineeships that respond to individual needs; and the importance of building connections with universities and TAFEs.** NTV members also highlighted the importance of building specialist capabilities through non-accredited training on specialised topics where there are current gaps.

Sector request 

A review of minimum standards for men’s behaviour change programs (MBCPs) and a related compliance framework.

These standards were developed pre-Royal Commission. Much has changed in that time, including the advent of online interventions and supports.

The **current Minimum Standards do not reflect the way that the men’s family violence sector functions in 2024.**

The sector looks to Minimum Standards to guide their work but there are some concerns that their current form **may limit innovation.**

A review of Minimum Standards needs to centre meaningful consultation with the sector to outline what a future regulatory and compliance framework would look like.

To retain staff, the tri-peaks (No to Violence, Safe and Equal and Sexual Assault Services Victoria) industry plan feedback highlighted the need for adequate resourcing for supervision, wellbeing initiatives, and to support new employees, particularly entry level employees. Diversifying roles also relieves the burden of non-core work from practitioners. There is a need to support lived experience and the need for more clarity regarding hiring people with lived experience. Remuneration levels, short-term funding cycles and a lack of wage parity between different parts of the sector and with other areas of community services also causes workforce issues. There are also key recruitment challenges in regional areas and for smaller organisations that need to be addressed. We look forward to the release of the next 10-year industry plan.

Advancing a whole-of-society responses

No to Violence supports an inter-connected system of accountability wherein the government, the broader service system, community, and society work together, alongside individuals' change-making journeys, to stop family violence. Victoria has led Australia with the work of the Expert Advisory Committee on Perpetrator Interventions to conceptualise a web of accountability that ensures all parts of society work together to prevent violence happening and intervene early when it does.¹⁶ We encourage the development of the third rolling action plan to remain committed to the web of accountability to end family violence in a generation.

Member insight

'In our community, **young people are tolerating a level of violence that hasn't been seen before**...there is a normalisation of [the violence that] is really scary.'

Community responses to people using, or at risk of using, violence need to challenge violence-supporting narratives. The responses of families, friends, neighbours, and by-standers matter. So too does investing in partnerships with local councils, in educational settings and places of worship, and with health services to support non-violent ways of being. We suggest a particular emphasis on environments, such as nightclubs, bars and sporting venues and clubs, that correlate with increased levels of domestic, family, and sexual violence.

Member insight

'In a remote community, they had the community develop a program through a football team....

If a player was using DFV, they weren't allowed to play that week.

The whole community got behind the program, and it was the most impactful in terms of decreasing the DFV in that community.'

¹⁶ State of Victoria. (2018). Perpetrators and people who use violence. Expert Advisory Committee on Perpetrator Interventions. Retrieved from <https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-reform-rollingaction-plan-2020-2023/priorities-for-2020-2023/perpetrators-and-people>

The media have a significant role to play in influencing community attitudes, alongside which No to Violence advocates for a digital focus to reduce the increasingly dangerous online promotion of misogyny and hegemonic masculinity¹⁷.

Member insight 

‘Accessing boys and young men is about a community engagement processes that **young people will access**. For example, lots of violence at a skatepark in Queensland, when a service was attached to the skatepark - it had great outcomes.’

Government responses need to advance a multi-pronged approach that closely integrates the insights of victim-survivors, frontline service providers and researchers about what works for who to stop violence, and the **courage to take these insights to innovate responses to people, predominantly men, using violence**.

Family violence is a deeply entrenched social problem and people both using and experiencing it often have intersecting support needs. To ensure victim-survivors receive the wraparound support they need, the Victorian government needs to support cross-sectoral work between specialist family violence services, the criminal justice system and universal service sectors. **Advances have been made, but systems integration remains an on-going challenge**.

A key touchpoint of problems is the Orange Doors. Our Victorian members have raised serious concerns about the relationship of some Orange Doors with Men’s Behaviour Change Program providers. Some members report men using violence are not always receiving a specialist response at the Orange Doors. Members also contend some Orange Door processes are creating a barrier to the delivery of family safety advocacy, including through the redaction of L17 police referrals. Family safety advocacy is already difficult to do, and chronically under-funded, but members are reporting a reticence to pass on affected family member contact details. It is believed there are concerns that providers will misuse that information. Consequently, the intention of the Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme and Child Information Sharing Scheme is being lost. See more information about Family Safety Advocacy in a member insight below.

¹⁷ Horta Ribeiro M, Blackburn J, Bradlyn B, De Cristofaro E, Stringhini G, Long S, Greenberg S & Zannettou S (2021) ‘The Evolution of the Manosphere across the Web’, *Proceedings of the International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media*. 15(1) 196-207.

Member insight 

‘We have very few family safety advocates, but **we are also struggling to get in touch with the women** – this goes to my point about the *Family Violence information sharing scheme*.

We cannot get the women’s details or current contact information because **it is not considered high enough risk** to attain that.

Even though the man has disclosed her information, and by her choice – and rightly so – she may change her phone number. If another service is already engaging with her, **it would be nice to know if our service is having an impact or reduction in his use of FV towards her** – that to me is a **huge barrier in us understanding change**.

We can measure their attitudes and beliefs around women in general, and their partners and all of that – but **the real [measure is] how FV has or has not reduced**. [That’s what] really matters.’

With better systems integration and cross-sectoral collaboration, especially with the AOD, mental health and child protection services, we can build the capacity to provide integrated responses that address multiple needs while reducing the engagement burden for service users.

Commitment to meaningful measures of what works to stop family violence

There is a need to strengthen the evidence on interventions working with men using violence. Across Australia, data used is primarily sourced from police and courts. However, given most family violence never comes to the attention of the police or courts, the engagement between the criminal justice system only provides a partial picture¹⁸. To end family violence in a generation we must advance research and practice simultaneously, including exploring innovative approaches to working with men.

Member insight 

‘Data collection has not improved - **the additional work that we do outside of guidelines is not captured**.

[We are] unable to capture the work that data systems will not allow you to...so it **is really hard to look at what the outcomes are**.

How can we provide evidence when the tools or machinery to provide that evidence do not exist? It’s a really difficult situation.’

¹⁸ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2021) Monitoring perpetrator interventions in Australia. Canberra: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Government support and evaluation frameworks have a key role to play in this. By working collaboratively with providers on meaningful evaluation frameworks, rather than contractually penalising providers, the government and sector can build knowledge of what works through the work that is currently happening in ways that centre the cessation of violence. **We need to move from measuring quantity** (such as completion of MBCPs) **to qualitative measures** (cessation and reduction of violence). Key to this is family safety advocacy.

Family safety advocacy is a core pillar of assessing the impact of interventions to stop family violence, specifically to ascertain the veracity of men's claims to have stopped using violence. To end family violence, support victim-survivors and know what interventions are working for who to stop family violence, **we need to deliver high-quality, well-funded family safety advocacy that is supported by clear contract targets**. At present, Family safety advocacy work is required in funding agreements and as part of the Minimum Standards but is not reflected in targets. NTV members shared that a significant portion of the work is not recorded in the data at all as there are no reportable targets related to family safety contact work.

Member insight 

'It's important to **decide what parts of the system are going to be evaluated**... because we can make our data work to statistics and we are able to gather qualitative data, but once again – **the issue of unfunded Family Safety Contact comes up**.

If we really want to measure and evaluate the impact of the current programs that we run, how do we do that in an efficient and thorough way, when Family Safety Contact is not funded?

Agencies have to work through how they are going to manage that. **We know that it is a key part of any MBCP**.

[Be] really clear on the areas of evaluation and impact – what is being measured, how is it being measured.

True outcomes [require] sufficiently funded Family Safety Contact [work] so that we have **the voice of victims** to talk about their experience and **what has made a difference in their day-to-day lives**.'

Family safety advocacy work also plays a central role in identifying and responding to new forms of family and sexual violence. Until this critical work is adequately funded, the understanding of new forms of family and sexual violence will continue to lag because the recounts of men engaging with services do not provide the whole picture.

We also need to become more sophisticated in how we monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of prevention and early intervention initiatives targeting men and boys. While national surveys such as the National Community Attitudes Survey (NCAS) and Personal Safety Survey (PSS) provide useful

indications of how attitudes and behaviours are shifting, they are not able to provide meaningful data on the effectiveness of specific prevention initiatives.

No to Violence also advocates for ongoing **accountability and evaluation mechanisms for government**. The Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor's (FVRIM) important work to ensure the effective implementation of the reform programme emerging from the Royal Commission into Family Violence was incredibly important. Independent implementation evaluation is a critical part of ensuring the social and economic return on the government's investment in family violence, as the work of the FVRIM illustrated.

Ending family violence in a generation requires a long-term commitment

We need clear government commitment to **forward-planning beyond the end of this current 10-year strategy** and the third rolling action plan. The Royal Commission was an important step in this work, it was never going to be the final one.