



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Fiona Carrick MLA

Addressed to: Marisa Paterson MLA

Reference: Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence/Community Services Directorate

Hearing: 10 February 2025

In relation to: DFSV Services

Question received: 17 February 2025

Answer Due: 24 February 2025

1. We know that the Australian Government committed to funding 500 additional domestic, family and sexual violence roles across 2022-23 to 2025-26, and understand that six frontline workers have commenced in the ACT to date.
 - What is the total amount of workers the ACT Government received funding for?
 - What action is the ACT Government taking to recruit for these new roles?
 - And what will happen to the funding if it is not allocated within the four years?
2. In relation to any programs or initiatives to respond to or prevent domestic and family violence that have been reprioritised, curtailed or reduced for 2024-25 (including lapsing programs), can you please identify:
 - the amount expected to be spent under the program or initiative during 2024-25 at the time of the 2023-24 Budget
 - the amount currently to be spent under the program or initiative during 2023-24
 - the use to which the funds realised by this reduction will be put. Please include the name(s) of any program or initiative that will be funded or partially funded.

Marisa Paterson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

[\[Insert answer to question on notice\]](#)

- (1) In 2023, the ACT was allocated \$2.495 million from the Commonwealth to fund 7.6 frontline family, domestic and sexual violence community workers over 2023-26. While an ACT contribution was not required, the ACT contributed \$0.776 as the Commonwealth allocation was insufficient to cover the costs of workers.

The 500-worker initiative provided the ACT with funding for 6 FTE in 2023-24, 7.6 workers in 2024-25, and 7.6 workers in 2025-26.

At the last reporting period, the ACT had delivered its target of 7.6 workers, and all funded organisations in the ACT had employed workers in line with contractual requirements. This reporting is publicly available at [500 Workers – monthly update | Department of Social Services](#). Commonwealth funding expires on 30 June 2026.

- (2) No programs or initiatives to prevent domestic and family violence were reprioritised, curtailed or reduced from 2023-24 to 2024-25.

In the 2023-24 Budget, total Budget expenditure on Safer Families initiatives was estimated at \$15.218 million for 2024-25. In the 2024-25 Budget, total Budget expenditure estimated for Safer Families initiatives is \$16.146 million for 2024-25, an increase from the previous year.

Existing programs that were not fully expended within the 2023-24 financial year were rolled over to the 2024-25 financial year and this is shown in Table H.2 and H.3 of the Budget Outlook.

One program was rolled over and continued from 2023-24 to 2024-25, \$1.244 million for the 2023-24 Budget initiative *Safer Families - Domestic and Family Violence Training and Resources*.

In addition, \$310,000 was provided through the 2023-24 Budget initiative *Safer Families – Providing Support to People Escaping Domestic and Family Violence*, which gave \$155,000 each to the Domestic Violence Crisis Service and Canberra Rape Crisis Service. This investment in both organisations was continued under the 2024-25 Budget initiatives *Safer families - Investing in frontline domestic and family violence services* and *Supporting Frontline Responses to Sexual Violence* outlined in Table H.2 and H.3 in the Budget Outlook papers.

Three time-limited grants funded under Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence Grants (Commonwealth funding) concluded on 30 September 2024. These grants provided one-off funding for specific training and capability initiatives that were all completed by the end of the grant period.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature: 

Date: 20/02/2025

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Marisa Paterson MLA