

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan 2

Taking Stock, Evaluating and Reviewing, and Building on What Works: 2022-2025








Action Plan 2 Biannual Update (1 January – 30 June 2024)

[Action Plan 2 \(AP2\)](#) of the [Domestic, Family, Sexual Violence Framework](#) contains 65 actions across 4 domains: primary prevention, early intervention and accountability, response and recovery and systemic enablers and reform. Note that actions usually fall under more than one domain, since domains are intersecting. This reflects the reality that prevention, early intervention, response and recovery, and systemic enablers and reform, do not represent a linear progression. Under the [Monitoring Evaluation Action Plan \(MEAP\)](#), each agency is required to provide quarterly updates against their actions. Each 6 months this report will be published to provide transparency of outcomes. This report is accurate as at 30 June 2024.

Action Number, Action, Lead Agency	AP2 Agency Biannual Update, Q3+Q4 (1 January 2024 - 30 June 2024)	Domain			Reporting Status		
1.1 Implement respectful relationships education (RRE) in educational settings (DoE)	<p>The Department of Education's Teaching and Learning Services has developed and distributed the document 'Comprehensive and culturally appropriate sexuality education in remote schools - Transition to Year 12'.</p> <p>Train the Trainer training occurred for Keeping Safe Child Protection Curriculum resulting in 48 participants across 30 schools (January to March) and 61 educators, teachers and school leaders in 4 schools (April to June) across the NT.</p> <p>Our Watch workshops have been conducted with 36 principals. Australian Curriculum V9 sessions for teachers providing clarity on Health and Physical Education (HPE) curriculum content. Consultations have commenced with non-government school peaks regarding resource allocation for next financial year. The Department of Education has developed and published a suite of respectful relationships education curriculum support materials for Transition to Year 10. These resources show how content from across the Australian Curriculum learning areas and general capabilities can be organised into unit concepts and ideas to deliver respectful relationships education.</p> <p>The Consent and Respectful Relationships Education Implementation Plan 2024-2028 has been approved and two positions will be allocated and recruited to the project for 2024-2026 using Commonwealth funds.</p>	1			●		
1.2 Community Awareness Campaign – Safe, healthy, respectful relationships – what do they look like? (DCF - DFSVR)	Scheduled for 2024-25.		1			●	
1.3 Establish and implement an Aboriginal led DFSV prevention initiatives fund (DCF - DFSVR)	Aboriginal-led DFSV Prevention Grant guidelines have been drafted and a consultation process conducted with the NT DFSV Aboriginal Advisory Board and DFSVR Division Regional Coordinators. Work is on track to have the grant process administered by the end of 2024.			1			●
1.4, Establish a sexual harassment prevention officer in NT Worksafe (AGD)	Position established and position recruited to.				1	3	







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● On track ● Not yet commenced ● At risk

1.5a, Continue the Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention Grant Program (DCF - DFSVR)	Grant recipients are continuing to implement their prevention projects funded under the Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Grants Program in 2022. This round of the grants program ends 30 June 2025, with planning to occur in 2024-2025 for the next round of grants.	1			
1.5b, Expand the Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention Grant Program (DCF - DFSVR)	Funding allocations to enable the continuation of the additional Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention Grants program funding achieved in the 2022 budget are under consideration.	1			
1.5c, Evaluate the Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention Grant Program (DCF - DFSVR)	The Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention Grants Program is scheduled for an internal process evaluation in 2024-25. This process will also be informed by the 10 individual grant project evaluations, conducted by grant recipients using the designated evaluation funding (of \$0.6 million over 3 years) allocated to each recipient as part of their grant. Grant recipients are being supported by OurWatch with evaluation activity. Scoping of the grant program evaluation is expected to commence in Q1 2024-25.	1		4	
1.6, Continue to support and grow Primary Prevention capability and capacity in the NT through the NT Primary Prevention Community of Practice and the Our Watch Primary Prevention Officer Partnership to increase prevention capability across the NT (DCF - DFSVR)	The NT Primary Prevention Community of Practice brings together primary prevention grant recipients to support primary prevention capability in the NT. It commenced in 2022 and meets regularly online (and face to face where possible), to allow participation from across the NT. Sessions are facilitated by the Our Watch Primary Prevention Officer (PPO) and are held every 6-8 weeks. The Community of Practice met face to face in March 2024, an online meeting on 1 May with 10 participants, and one face-to-face meeting in Alice Springs on 4 June with 15 participants from 7 member organisations. Discussions have been focussed on the importance of lived experience. The sessions continue to provide an opportunity for members to reflect on challenges and successes, strengthen member relationships and improve practice through learning from each other. The OurWatch PPO grant agreement is in place until 30 December 2025.	1	3	4	
1.7, Implement the NT-relevant Respect@Work Report recommendations (DCF - DFSVR)	<p>Of the 55 recommendations in the Respect@Work Report, 22 have direct relevance to the NT Government, all of which are supported with actions under the DFSV Reduction Framework, the Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Framework, and the Gender Equality Action Plan. Implementation requires a whole-of-government approach, as the recommendations cut across several portfolios, including justice, education, work health and safety, and public employment. Work is continuing to respond to the recommendations, including \$100,000 funding for the NT Anti-Discrimination Commission to increase Sexual Harassment Bystander Intervention training for non-government and community groups, including adaptation for Aboriginal organisations. Recommendations are also supported under Action 1.4 (NT Worksafe Sexual Harassment and Prevention Officer) in AP2.</p> <p>The NT Government continues to fund the NT Working Women’s Centre to provide support to complainants and develop resources aimed at assisting employers to put in place processes and supports that address sexual harassment in the workplace, and supports NT women’s legal services to deliver a workplace sexual harassment awareness campaign in line with the Our Watch Workplace Equality & Respect Program.</p>	1			
1.8, Support actions under the NT Gender Equality Action Plan 2022-2025 that work to address the drivers of gender-based violence (DPSC - OGED)	<p>The First Progress Report for the NT Gender Equality Action Plan was released in May 2024. To increase the evidence-base and monitor progress, OGED has engaged the Northern Institute (CDU) to develop Gender Equality Indicators for the NT and to produce a series of occasional papers that explore gender inequalities experienced in the NT. The Northern Institute also undertakes data analysis to inform the Social Outcomes Data Dashboard – the work being undertaken for OGED will also inform the Data Dashboard.</p> <p>The Office of Gender Equality and Diversity (OGED) manages the contract of the NT Working Women’s Centre (NTWWC), providing \$194,000 annually for the organisation to provide free advice to women about work related matters, including support for employees experiencing workplace bullying, sexual harassment and domestic and family violence. This funding is also to develop resources for employers and employees regarding obligations and rights relating to sexual harassment in the workplace. This service is Territory-wide including regional and remote areas of the NT. OGED has also engaged NTWWC to undertake research to inform Occasional Papers that explore issues impacting working women in the Northern Territory with a focus on Aboriginal women, migrant women and women with disability.</p> <p>The OGED Grants and Sponsorship Program supports projects that progress the actions of the Gender Equality Action Plan. The program has supported 60 community activities in 2023-24 up to 31 March. The NT Men’s Places Grants program provides funding to activities aimed at enhancing the wellbeing of Territory men. The 2024 grant round opened for applications in November 2023 and closed on 5 April 2024. Applications are currently being assessed.</p>	1			
2.1a, Co-design and implement a cross-agency evidence-based framework for programs for	A framework to support Men’s Behaviour Change Programs (MBCP) in meeting minimum standards in the NT was supported by a co-design process commenced under the DFSV Interagency Coordination and Reform Office in May 2023. This involved DFV specialist services, Aboriginal Community Control Organisations and relevant Government agencies. In April 2024, the NT Minimum Standards and Application		2	4	

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<p>people who have committed DFV for the NT (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>Process for Declared DFV Rehabilitation Programs (Minimum Standards) was approved following approval by the CEOs DCF and AGD, and published on the DCF website. The Minimum Standards provide guidance for programs for people who have committed DFV, such as MBCPs. Programs who are seeking to be declared under the DFV Act (which enables Courts to order attendance) are required to adhere to the Minimum Standards. For other programs, the Minimum Standards provide good practice guidance. DCF is now developing implementation guidance to assist declared DFV programs to adopt the Minimum Standards, and assist contract managers of NT Government funded declared DFV programs to monitor implementation. DCF is also working to establish a governance mechanism to provide high-level oversight of declared DFV programs and support the implementation of the Minimum Standards. In Q1 2024-2025 DCF will meet with MBCP providers to support their process of aligning with the Minimum Standards.</p>				
<p>2.1b, Expand men’s behaviour change programs (MBCP) in community settings under the new Framework (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>MBCPs are delivered in Alice Springs by Tangentyere Aboriginal Council Corporation and in Darwin and Wadeye by Catholic Care NT. Baseline funding of \$1.14 million has been expanded by \$5.32 million for 2 years under AP2, to address demand due to sentencing reform and existing waitlists. The existing MBCP providers in Darwin and Alice Springs have continued to work to increase capacity to meet program demand. Work is now underway to expand the existing fly in fly out model in Wadeye to be place-based in the community.</p> <p>In October 2023, 5-year grant agreements were executed for both services that included the 2 years of increased funding. The new service models included important safeguards such as quarantined funding components for sufficient partner safety workers, and men’s outreach workers. The grant agreements also include obligations to provide priority places to persons ordered to participate by a Court under the sentencing reforms; align with the Minimum Standards (see Action 2.1a) and align with outcomes of the MBCP evaluation (see action 2.3).</p> <p>DCF is establishing a new trial MBCP in Katherine, funded using NPA funding (\$2.414 million over three 3 years). The program model will prioritise the safety of victim survivors, and bring together an understanding of the gendered drivers of DFV, the impacts of colonisation on Aboriginal people, and the problematic use of alcohol and other drugs as a reinforcing factor in DFV. Following consultation with the Katherine service sector in early 2024, a final report has been provided by Nous Group recommending Wurli Wurlinjang Aboriginal Health Service (Wurli) as the most suitable provider for the Katherine MBCP. Contract negotiations are expected to be finalised in Q1 2024-2025.</p>				
<p>2.1c, Expand DFV programs in prison to prisoners on remand or serving sentences less than 2 years (AGD)</p>	<p>NT Correctional Services (NTCS) has recruited 2 Aboriginal lead facilitators, one which has commenced and the second commencing in September 2024. In May 2024, NTCS commenced delivering the Family Violence Program (FVP) for prisoners on remand, using existing resources. It is anticipated that the number of FVP programs run for prisoners on remand will increase through recent and current recruitment activity.</p>				
<p>2.2a, Strengthen the Specialist DFV Court Model at the Alice Springs Local Court – Registrar component (AGD)</p>	<p>DV Registrar position recruited to.</p>				
<p>2.2b, Strengthen the Specialist DFV Court Model at the Alice Springs Local Court – victim survivor support component (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>Utilising \$1.08 million in funding allocated through the NPA for 20 frontline workers over 2023-24 to 2025-26, 3 non legal workers are being commissioned to support victim survivors at the Alice Springs Specialist Court. This followed consultation with all specialist court stakeholders. The funding is in the process of allocation to Central Australian Women’s Legal Service (CAWLS), Women’s Safety Services of Central Australia (WoSSCA) and Central Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Unit (CAAFLU), with one worker for each service.</p>				
<p>2.2c, Strengthen the Specialist DFV Court Model at the Alice Springs Local Court – representation component (AGD)</p>	<p>A proposal to commission 2 duty lawyer positions is currently under consideration.</p>				
<p>2.2d, Strengthen the Specialist DFV Court Model at the Alice Springs Local Court – training component (AGD)</p>	<p>A DFV legal training package sub-committee has been formed and has met twice. The sub-committee are advancing the development of the DFV legal education package. The package is currently in draft form. Judges have training at the Judges conference in August.</p>				

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2.2c, Strengthen the Specialist DFV Court Model at the Alice Springs Local Court – evaluation component (NT Police)	Planning for procurement for evaluation services is on track and the approach has been to engage in a select tender process rather than an open tender process.								
2.3, Evaluate the existing Men’s Behaviour Change Programs (DCF - DFSVR)	In May 2023, DCF commissioned the Australian National Research Organisation for Women’s Safety (ANROWS), to evaluate the 2 MBCPs in the NT, comprising individual service reviews and a summary report. The evaluation focuses on how the service models align with evidence based good practice. ANROWS also developed Quality Practice Elements (QPEs) to identify evidence based good practice for benchmarking. On 2 April 2024, DCF received the final QPEs from ANROWS. The QPEs draw upon the Central Australian Minimum Standards developed by Tangentyere Council, the No To Violence MBCP Minimum Standards, and, recent research and emerging practice-based knowledge from other Australian jurisdictions about how to improve the effectiveness of MBCPs. The QPEs will be incorporated into the implementation guidance for the Minimum Standards, which is currently under development. DCF has received the final report for Catholic Care NT. The final report for Tangentyere Council and the Summary Report are in development by ANROWS. The QPEs and Summary Report are expected to be published on the DCF website in late October 2024.								
2.4a Implement the RAMF within NT Police (NT Police)	NT Police are developing a DFV training schedule that has identified members working in DV specialist areas as suitable for completing RAMF training. NT Police members continue to attend RAMF training. A detailed agency-wide implementation plan is being developed.								
2.4b Develop and implement a frontline tool for police to screen for DFV risk, in alignment with the RAMF (NT Police)	NT Police have worked with DCF to develop a frontline Police Risk Screening Tool that aligns with the CRAT and is specific to the NT population. Implementation is planned to occur in Alice Springs on commencement of the trial DFSV Co-responder model (see Action 3.6).								
2.4c Set, enforce and monitor annual targets for NT Police risk assessment and management training (NT Police)	As per 2.4a.								
2.4d Improve and enhance the response to DFSV through undertaking a review of the DFV General Order to establish a consistent process for response to DFV incidents (NT Police)	On 1 December 2023, NT Police promulgated an updated <i>General Order - Domestic and Family Violence</i> . This iteration included specific and consistent processes for response to DFV incidents, and included the separation of DFV incidents that include intimate partners for greater focus on high risk incidents.								
2.5 Implement the RAMF within NT Health, including implementation of the NT Health DFV Clinical Guidelines (NT Health)	NT Health is embarking on a transformative journey in addressing DFSV. Culturally safe practice takes centre stage in our approach to embedding the NT Government RAMF. NT Health has included RAMF information as common knowledge in the co-designed NT Health Clinical Guideline for culturally safe responses to DFSV. The updated evidence-based guideline provides clinical instruction for early identification, supportive responses for all patients and accurate reporting.								
2.6 Implement the RAMF within DCF (DCF)	DCF has updated Housing, Child Protection and Youth Justice Policy settings and procedures to reflect and reference RAMF. Staff are regularly attending RAMF and Safe and Together Training in line with requirements. Children and Families Programs has dedicated one FTE to undertake a consultative and collaborative process with DCF Women's Safe House staff to develop Standard Operating Procedures that embed RAMF. The project is on track with the Project Officer having completed the majority of travel to meet with staff in situ and is now commencing development of the relevant documents.								
2.7 Implement the RAMF within DoE (Education)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.								
2.8 Implement the RAMF within AGD (AGD)	Work in progress - finalisation of lead officers from each section pending. Plan AGD section-wide meeting September 2024 to progress section's RAMF.								









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<p>2.9 Support the implementation of RAMF in universal services (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>RAMF training is provided to specialist, universal and statutory services across the NT, and is free of charge. The training increases workforce capability to better support victim survivors as well as accountability for people who have committed violence. In 2023-24, DCF funded the NT Council of Social Service \$0.3 million to coordinate the delivery of 54 RAMF training sessions in all major regional centres as well as a remote module in 3 remote locations. Between 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2024, 594 workers completed RAMF, and 270 workers completed RAMF between April-June 2024. Since RAMF training commenced in 2021, over 1550 workers have attended. Participant feedback shows that over 96% agreed or strongly agreed that due to RAMF training, they felt more ready and able to respond to the safety needs of victims. In addition to RAMF training, \$4.65 million from the NPA has been committed to support RAMF implementation in specialist and universal services. This includes funding for RAMF Champions in 8 universal services, such as health services, organisations working with young people and children, and counselling services, to improve their DFV responses through organisational development and implementation of RAMF. The services are: CatholicCare NT; Katherine West Health Board Aboriginal Corporation; Miwatj Health Aboriginal Corporation; One Tree Community Services Inc; Laynhapuy Homelands Aboriginal Corporation; Yalu Aboriginal Corporation; Relationships Australia Northern Territory Inc; Central Australian Aboriginal Congress Aboriginal Corporation. The project has seen increased staff capacity building, increased attendance at RAMF training, and improved policy and procedure alignment with RAMF. NTCOSS supports the RAMF Champions through a Community of Practice held every 6 weeks.</p>			
<p>2.10, Establish a new DFSV secondary prevention (early intervention) grant program to support young people who are starting to use violence (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>DCF seek to intervene with young people starting to use violence through \$1 million for 4 years, and a further \$2.1 million under the NPA, to establish a DFSV early intervention grant program. The Early Intervention grants commenced in 2023-24 and continue to be implemented with regular contract management meetings to support project deliverables. Projects funded from 2023-2027 are delivered by: Katherine West Health Board; CatholicCare NT; Tangentyere Council. These projects will be subject to an external evaluation. Projects funded from 2023-2025 are delivered by: Women's Safety Services of Central Australia; YWCA; Central Australian Women's Legal Service; Salvation Army; Crisis Accommodation Gove.</p>			
<p>2.11, Strengthen the understanding and response of disability and seniors' specialist services to DFSV including abuse of older persons (elder abuse) (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>The NT Government funded Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS) in 2023-24 to deliver an outreach-focused older persons abuse service. The outreach service model increased DCLS's reach into the community, raising awareness and understanding of older persons' abuse to improve responses and available supports, engaging more older people with a regular presence at local shopping centres and seniors events, providing support and information for seniors experiencing abuse, and encouraging local responses by building the capacity of community service organisations. DCLS released a survey in early 2024 to assess how older persons abuse is perceived within our community. Results have highlighted a need for continued focus on community education and awareness to better support vulnerable senior Territorians. The funding has been extended for DCLS to provide this service for another year.</p> <p>The Office of Disability supports local disability advocacy groups to support, advise and inform people with disability across the Territory. Through the dissemination of relevant information and reference material to these advocacy groups, the Office of Disability promotes the reduction of DFSV to disability sector workers who are best placed to assess for any risk of harm. Opportunities to connect and share referral pathways for support to people with disability experiencing or at risk of experiencing DFSV, is encouraged through a variety of advocacy groups and community stakeholder meetings, in line with targeted actions in the NT Disability Strategy Action Plan 2022-2025.</p>			
<p>3.1, Strengthen the response of specialist services towards child victim survivors to reduce the impacts of DFSV, increase safety, and assist recovery (DCF - DFSVR)</p>	<p>Under the NPA, there has been extra support for essential frontline service delivery including \$7 million towards 18 extra frontline workers in the NT. These frontline workers will provide invaluable assistance in strengthening our DFSV workforce, with the majority (12) allocated to specialist children's workers in women's crisis accommodation services, to support children as victim survivors in their own right. The following services have now received funding for children's workers for three years: Women's Safety Services of Central Australia; Barkly Regional Council; The Salvation Army; Galiwinku Women's Space Aboriginal Corporation; Northern Territory YWCA Australia; Catholic Care NT; Katherine Women's Crisis Centre; One Tree Community Services; Darwin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Shelter Indigenous Corporation; Crisis Accommodation Gove; and Tennant Creek Women's Refuge.</p>			
<p>3.2, Provide DFSV counselling for female prisoners (AGD)</p>	<p>NT Correctional Services is in the process of finalising the Domestic and Family Violence Counselling service scope and has engaged with a number of accredited organisations in relation to provision of the counselling service.</p>			








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3.3a, Embed a specialist DFV outreach worker at visitor accommodation (DCF - Homelessness)	In June 2024, DCF entered into a funding agreement with Mission Australia for the delivery of Specialist DFSV Services at Batten Road. The DFSV Outreach Worker is due to commence in August 2024.				
3.3b, Improve intersections between Housing and DFSV Policies and Programs (DCF - Homelessness)	Senior Project Officer position filled.				
3.3c, Pilot and evaluate a DFSV Housing Pathways Transitional Accommodation program (DCF - Homelessness)	<p>The program operates in Darwin and Alice Springs. In Alice Springs, Community Housing Central Australia (CHCA) have rented properties through real estate agents and directly with landlords. CHCA sub-contract WoSSCA to provide specialist DFV support to tenants. In Darwin, Community Housing Limited (CHL) have established strong relationships with local real estate agents, resulting in an increase of properties being offered. Initiatives such as offering twelve weeks advance rent payment have been implemented by CHL to secure properties. There is a strong partnership between CHL and Dawn House (who are sub-contracted to provide specialist DFV support to tenants).</p> <p>In February 2024, an additional \$0.61 million for 2024-25 financial year was approved to extend the DFSV Housing Pathways pilot. In June 2024, additional funding from Homelessness programs was sourced to address service delivery funding gaps identified during the pilot and extend the pathways program for an additional 12 months, ending 30 June 2026.</p> <p>Outcomes delivered (to 30 June 2024)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 DFSV clients have occupied head lease properties through the program • there have been 3 reunifications of families due to the program • 3 DFSV clients successfully exited the program • 18 housed DFSV clients identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander • 2 housed DFSV clients identified as having a disability. <p>Due to delays in the initial grant commissioning and provision of Housing Pathways properties, Q2 2024-25 is the revised target date for the grant evaluation, allowing for further data and occupation of key positions.</p>				
3.3d Undertake research into DFSV victim survivors' housing pathways (DCF - Homelessness)	Procurement on track to commence in November 2024, with research findings delivered by May 2025.				
3.4 Improve DFSV responses in NT hospitals and health settings (NT Health)	To improve and embed a stronger and systemic response to DFSV, the NT Health Improving Responses to the DFSV Initiative supports every doctor and nurse at bedside to be skilled at identifying the signs, confident to sensitively enquire about DFSV, and be culturally safe when responding. The DFSV Initiative is led by First Nations Health and Wellbeing Division as it implements workforce capacity building; driving multi-level system change across all regional health services. NT Health is building on strengths in partnership through commissioning non-government specialists to establish Regional DFSV Collaborator roles based in 5 regional hospitals to co-deliver DFSV workforce training. These commissioned services import DFSV expertise and harness local service knowledge to improve patient transitions and expand DFSV referral options.				
3.5 Implement a DFV Specialist Prosecutor and additional witness assistance supports (AGD)	A specialist prosecutor has been appointed. Additional Witness Assistant Service Officers have been recruited to.				
3.6 Develop and trial a DFSV co-responder model within NT Police (NT Police)	Development is underway for the co-responder model pilot project in Alice Springs. Operational Guidelines have been developed and endorsed by participating agencies. Specialist services have received funding (for 2 specialist workers for victim survivors and one for working with people who have committed violence) and are in the process of recruiting specialist workers for the program. NT Police are assessing options for the physical co-location of staff in Alice Springs. Detailed evaluation planning is underway.				
3.7, Increase funding for Enhanced Specialist Services Grants (DCF - DFSVR)	Enhanced Specialist Services Grants (ESSG) support wraparound services and practice support for over 16 crisis accommodation services, including counselling, outreach, flexible support packages, staff supervision and practice management. The ESSG commenced in 2018-19 with ongoing funding of \$2 million per annum to provide domestic and family violence. In 2022-23, in recognition of DFSV services' funding pressures, an additional \$1 million was committed for ESSG from 2022-23 for four years, resulting in a total budget of \$3 million until 2025-				

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	26, with \$2 million ongoing. Funding allocations to enable the continuation of the additional ESSG funding achieved in the 2022 budget are under consideration.				
3.8 Consider DFSV risks in emergency response and recovery planning and activities, to support planning and response to DFSV during emergencies (DCF Programs - Emergency Management)	The High Risk Populations Project remains on track with a view for completion in November 2024.				
3.9 Support NTPS to lead the way on DFSV responses in NT workplaces (DCF - DFSVR)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.				
3.10 Provide crisis accommodation and wraparound supports (including outreach, counselling, Flexible Support Packages) to DFSV victim survivors (DCF - DFSVR)	8 services are funded for outreach, 9 services are funded for counselling, with services continuing over this period. 25 services are now funded for Flexible Support Packages (FSPs), including DFV specialist accommodation providers, legal services and sexual assault providers. Services have recognised the benefit the FSPs provide in supporting DFSV victim survivors to access the support they need, and the added benefit in helping workers in managing vicarious trauma through having flexible support for clients accessible when needed and where other services are unavailable or clients are ineligible.				
3.11, Establish Aboriginal-led community-based specialist sexual assault service(s) to build local and regional capacity, and commission new culturally-designed services including cultural healers, social emotional wellbeing workforce, counsellors and other trauma-based experts (NT Health)	The milestones in this reporting period are on track. Detailed workforce development needs to be identified and planned. Stage 1: Planning and establishment, Monthly meetings with National Centre, Preparation of briefing document, Establish a Project Advisory Group (PAG), identify key stakeholders - October 2023 Stage 2: Establish relationships & parameters for approaching communities and working with them- November 2023. Stage 3: Engage regional communities to establish projects - April 2024 - commenced Stage 4: Service establishment through grant tender process, workforce development and evaluation framework for service delivery to commence September 2024. Big Rivers region identified region for initial pilot site.				
3.12, Improve capability at the Ruby Gaea Darwin Centre Against Sexual Violence, which provides support and counselling to women and children who have experienced sexual violence (NT Health)	NT Health negotiated an agreement for the additional \$100,000 for the 2022-23 period. The agreement prioritised improvements of Ruby Gaea capability and the following outputs: Engagement of a project officer to deliver: a review and recommendations for the service addressing Ruby Gaea’s organisational framework including governance, administration, staffing and infrastructure; and core services; a 4 year costed action plan, for the term of the funding, which identifies capability improvements to be undertaken to support the organisations sustainability, recognise and build niche service capabilities and build on client outcomes. Capability improvements are progressing within Ruby Gaea, in line with the project plan and the Action Plan.				
4.1a, Establish and maintain a sustainable, DFSV coordination mechanism to lead consistent and evidence-based DFSV policy and practice reform (DCF - DFSVR)	The DFSV Reduction Division (DFSVR) was established in October 2023, and replaced the former Office of DFSV Reduction (ODFSVR). The Division has 21 staff, 5 of which are the existing staff from the ODFSVR. The Division comprises a Strategic Policy Team (which includes the new DFV Death Review Project Manager, and the Data and Evaluation Analyst) and the Coordination Team (which includes 6 DFSV Regional Coordinators and a grants team), and is headed up by an Executive Director. The DFSVR Division recruitment has continued to strengthen support provided to DFSV reform, including the commencement of regional coordinator positions in Big Rivers, Arnhem and Barkly, adding to the existing Greater Darwin and Top End positions. Recruitment challenges exist in meeting the required staffing in the Central Australia regional coordinator, and two Senior Policy Officer roles, with recruitment continuing.				
4.1b, Establish and support a DFSV Aboriginal Advisory Board (DCF - DFSVR)	The Aboriginal Advisory Board (AAB) met in February and June 2024, outlining their priorities moving forward for DFSV. The priorities will primarily focus on: progress work under Action 1.3 and to seek advice on key DFSV initiatives, including the DFV Death Review Project, respectful relationships education program; lived experience; grassroots solutions; Aboriginal voices and Truth telling. The AAB would like to				






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	focus on advising and informing how frontline government services, such as the Department of Health and the NT Police, can be more culturally appropriate. Further out of session consultations have been undertaken on the Katherine MBCP and DFSV Data Snapshot. Kim Mullholland has been appointed as the Board's Deputy Chair. The AAB members attended the Sharing and strengthening our practice DFSV conference on 5 and 6 June, and were involved in panel facilitation, speaking roles, and a keynote address.					
4.1c Establish and implement a systemic DFV death review process for the NT (DCF - DFSVR)	The project is on track. The Project Manager commenced in January 2024. Research has been conducted on DFV death review processes across Australia and internationally. Significant work on the proposed model has occurred with AGD and the Coroner's office. A consultation paper has been prepared outlining the proposed Systemic DFV Death Review Model for the NT. However, consultation will now occur after the NT election, so that the consultation didn't occur in the caretaker period.					●
4.1d Undertake a review of the RAMF and RAMF implementation progress (DCF - DFSVR)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.					●
4.1e Expand the RAMF to respond to practitioner needs (DCF - DFSVR)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.					●
4.1f Develop and implement a monitoring, evaluation and accountability plan (MEAP) for the DFSV Reduction Framework and action plans (DCF - DFSVR)	In August 2023, a Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan (MEAP) for the NT's DFSV Reduction Framework was released. Processes to support monitoring and accountability under AP2 include quarterly stakeholder reporting on progress towards implementing actions, as well as six-monthly public facing dashboard style reporting. Reporting is provided to oversight groups including the DFSV Advisory Forum, the AAB as well as the CEO Coordination Groups for whole-of-government oversight of implementation of actions. An Implementation Steering Group, comprised of Action Officers nominated from NTG agencies to lead implementation of AP2 Actions, was convened in late 2023 and has held 3 meetings to date. The Group meet quarterly and support monitoring of actions across government. Implementation of the MEAP will occur through the work of the Data and Evaluation Analyst. This position, created as part of the new DFSV Reduction Division under AP2, has now been filled by two specialists who share the full-time role - a data specialist who commenced in January 2024, and an evaluation specialist who commenced in May 2024.					●
4.2 Strengthen the Family Safety Framework through enhanced intelligence and coordination (NT Police)	<p>Work is underway to strengthen the Family Safety Framework (FSF) across the NT. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress against recruitment of new and upgraded FSF Positions including: Senior FSF Coordinator (recruitment completed and staff member in place); new Intelligence Support Officers (ISO) (recruitment in Nhulunbuy completed with staff member in place, recruitment for Tennant Creek is largely complete with a recommendation signed by the delegate on 11 June 2024); Upgrading of Darwin and Katherine ISOs (completed). Challenges with recruitment of ISO in Wadeye. Delegate approved the position to be re-advertised in Wadeye, Darwin and Katherine on 11 June 2024. Establishment of new FSF in Wadeye. A local FSF working group involving key stakeholders has been established, and meetings have commenced and are ongoing. DFV RAMF training was delivered in Wadeye in March 2024. NTP recruitment for an ISO is nearing completion. Developing an FSF Portal. A Business Case is being developed and a series of workshops has been held with key stakeholders by the company that developed the FSF Portal in South Australia, to confirm the key features and system requirements. Updating the FSF MOU and Guidelines. This has involved extensive consultation with FSF members, FSF Chairs, ISOs and FSF Partnership Group members in NTP and DFSVR. The FSF Partnership group has been meeting monthly to ensure FSF coordination and resolve issues raised by FSF Chairs and members. Improving data collection, monitoring and evaluation. 					●
4.3 Develop and publish DFSV data for the NT (DCF - DFSVR)	The Data and Evaluation Analyst position, created as part of the new DFSV Reduction Division under Action Plan 2, has now been filled by two specialists who share the full time role - a data specialist who commenced in January 2024, and an evaluation specialist who commenced in May 2024. The data specialist has developed the first Data Snapshot which will be provided every 6 months, and will be available online.					●

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	The DFSV Data Snapshot has been provided to the DFSV Advisory Forum (formerly CAWG) to provide feedback on. The data snapshot includes available data from both NT and national datasets.					
4.4 Continue to strengthen DFV information sharing (DCF - DFSVR)	<p>During this reporting period, the Information Commissioner released the report <i>A Matter of Trust: First Review of Chapter 5A, Domestic and Family Violence Act</i>. Work is underway in the Department to implement accepted recommendations from that report within existing resources. Of the 13 recommendations, the Department has accepted 8 recommendations, partly accepted one recommendation, noted another recommendation and did not accept 2 recommendations, which related to establishing a centralised enquiry line (this function already exists within DCF) and a requirement for annual reporting from ISEs (which would create an onerous burden on smaller ISEs).</p> <p>Amendments to the <i>NT Domestic and Family Violence Act (2007)</i> commenced on 25 March 2024 that allow prospective ISEs to nominate certain staff and/or positions as authorised information sharers under the Act. Following these changes, updates are being made to the Information Sharing resources and application form to ensure services are aware of the changes.</p> <p>Alignment with the RAMF by NT Government Agencies (Actions 2.5-2.8) is underway with a RAMF implementation template being provided to support this work across relevant agencies. RAMF is a component of the Information Sharing Scheme under Chapter 5A of the DFV Act.</p> <p>As of June 2024, four new organisations have been prescribed as Information Sharing Entities (ISEs) during this reporting period, bringing the total number of non-government organisation ISEs to 19.</p>					
4.5 Establish the DFSV Resource Centre (DCF - DFSVR)	Consultation on the DFSV Resource Centre model was undertaken in 2023, and the further development of the project is on hold while the DFSV peak body (see Action 4.12) is progressed. In the interim, DFSV training for workers across the sector is provided through the RAMF training, the development of the Prevent, Assist and Respond Training (PART), Safe and Together training, and support of training delivered through Dawn House and WoSSCAs community education officers.					
4.6 Continue to build workforce capability in DFV risk assessment and management, including for universal service workers (DCF - DFSVR)	<p>RAMF training is provided to specialist, universal and statutory services across the NT, and is free of charge. The training increases workforce capability to better support victim survivors as well as accountability for people who have committed violence. In 2023-24, DCF funded the NT Council of Social Service \$0.3 million to coordinate the delivery of 54 RAMF training sessions in all major regional centres as well as a remote module in 4 remote locations (Galwin'ku, Nhulunbuy, Wadeye and Mutitjulu). Between 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2024, 594 workers completed RAMF, and 270 workers completed RAMF between April-June 2024.</p> <p>Since RAMF training commenced in 2021, over 1550 workers have attended. Participant feedback shows that over 96% agreed or strongly agreed that due to RAMF training, they felt more ready and able to respond to the safety needs of victim survivors.</p> <p>DCF is also supporting and working with the Prevent Assist Respond training (PART) consortium, led by Tangentyere Corporation Aboriginal Council, through grant funding to develop online modules aimed at frontline workers to build an understanding of DFV dynamics.</p> <p>DCF also delivers Safe and Together training across the sectors.</p> <p>RAMF implementation in universal services is supported through the RAMF Champions Program (see update under Action 2.9).</p>					
4.7 Build DFSV research capacity in the NT in order to strengthen the NT DFSV evidence base (DCF - DFSVR)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.					
4.8 Review and reform the Domestic and Family Violence Act and sexual offences legislation so that they provide a sound, responsive and	All of the legislation commenced on 25 March 2024 and the reform is otherwise complete. No ongoing implementation issues have been identified. Issues in relation to affirmative consent (sexual offences) have been referred to the NT Law Reform Committee for consideration. A draft report is expected to be published in the first half of 2024.					


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accountable foundation for the service system (AGD)					
4.9 Training in sexual violence identification and responses (DCF - DFSVR)	DCF funded training in 2022-23 which continues this year with \$150,000 to NT Health Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC) to deliver training for workers to identify and respond to children, young people and adults who have experienced sexual violence.				
4.10, Develop DFV practice and service standards for DFV specialist services, in partnership with specialist services and those with lived experience of DFV, to support service-driven quality improvement, including an implementation process through Quality Assurance tools (This is linked to Action 4.14) (DCF - DFSVR)	Not yet commenced - scheduled for 2024-25.				
4.11 Sharing and Strengthening Our Practice biannual conference (DCF - DFSVR)	The second Sharing and Strengthening our Practice Conference for frontline DFSV workers in the NT was delivered on 5-6 June 2024 in Alice Springs. The conference brought together DFSV prevention and response sector workers, supervisors, managers and executives from across the NT, to share their experiences and knowledge. Keynote speakers Auntie Muriel Bamblett, Connie Shaw and Phynea Clark discussed the latest issues, trends, and responses in the DFSV services sector. The conference covered a broad range of topics focusing on promising practice, bi-cultural ways of working, bringing men to the table to address DFSV and valuing the victim survivor voice. Over 250 workers across both NGO and NTG attended. The event also provided a networking opportunity for DFSV professionals to meet and discuss specific key issues, with many saying it was a highlight to create new connections and meet peers in the DFSV space.				
4.12 Continue to support DFSV sector development through NTCOSS DFSV Policy Officer and consider establishment of an NT DFSV peak (DCF - DFSVR)	In 2022, DCF entered into a 5-year agreement with the Northern Territory Council of Social Service (NTCOSS) to support a DFSV Policy Officer, following a successful pilot in 2021, to enable sector coordination, advocacy and support for DFSV services across the NT. The formation of a peak body has been identified as an important priority for the NT DFSV sector. Consultation undertaken as part of the development of a DFSV Resource Centre in 2023 identified support of a peak, and the view that a peak body should incorporate representation from both Aboriginal Community Controlled DFSV specialist organisations as well as other specialist DFSV services, and include governance and partnership mechanisms to ensure that Aboriginal people and Aboriginal organisations play a central role. In October 2023 NTCOSS commenced work to consider the establishment of and model for a peak body. DCF is working with the Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance of the Northern Territory (AMSANT) to support a second DFSV Policy Officer to meaningfully participate in the DFSV reforms discussion, to work in collaboration with NTCOSS, including on the establishment of a DFSV peak. It is expected work will commence between the two organisations on the DFSV Peak in 2024-2025.				
4.13 Align multi agency risk management approaches to DFSV between FSF, and Child Wellbeing and Safety Partnerships (formerly MACCST) under the RAMF (DCF- Policy)	Action 4.13 complete. DCF Executive Leadership Board approved the Child Wellbeing and Safety Partnerships' (CWSP) Guideline. This policy setting was developed with Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APONT) and Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Medical Northern Territory (AMSANT). The Guideline was developed in collaboration and consultation with MACCST/CWSP meetings operating in urban, regional and remote locations, Regional Services, the Department's Cultural Security Framework Committee and APONT and AMSANT. The Guideline includes explicit reference to, and requirement of CWSP meetings to respond to DFV aligned to the RAMF. Further it expands the original MACCST/CWSP remit to include referrals (by consent) of DFV victim survivors even if they have no children in their direct care. This enables a place-based plan of support/risk mitigation and/or referral in the absence of an FSF (noting CWSP does not replace, nor operate under the same parameters and requirements of the FSF. DCF Regional Services will implement the Guideline against their existing meeting and to new meetings established across the NT.				
4.14, Introduce performance measures for service providers that reflect objectives of	Standardised performance measures are now in place for DFV crisis accommodation services and MBCPs to align with victim safety and perpetrator accountability. Work is being undertaken to review the Safe, Respected and Free from Violence Primary Prevention grants to determine standard performance measures for primary prevention (Action 1.5c).				





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prevention, victim safety, and perpetrator accountability (DCF - DFSVR)						
4.15, Support supervision & practice management support for specialist services (DCF - DFSVR)	Enhanced Specialist Services Grants (ESSG) support practice support for crisis accommodation services, including staff supervision and practice management. These grants were introduced in 2019, and now all DFSV specialist services funded by DCF received this funding. In 2023-24 a total of \$0.68 million has gone towards these supports, with 15 DFV crisis accommodation services funded for practice supervision and practice management.					

Acronyms used in this document

- AAB: NT DFSV Aboriginal Advisory Board
- AP2: NT DFSV Action Plan 2
- AGD: Department of the Attorney General and Justice
- CRAT: NT DFV Common Risk Assessment Tool
- DCF: Department of Children and Families
- DFSV: Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence
- DFSVR: Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Division (DCF)
- DFV: Domestic and Family Violence
- DoE: Department of Education
- DPSC: Department of People Sport and Culture
- MEAP: NT DFSV Monitoring, Evaluation and Accountability Plan
- RAMF: NT Domestic and Family Violence Risk Assessment and Management Framework
- MBCP: Men’s Behaviour Change Program
- NPA: National Partnership Agreement
- NT: Northern Territory
- OGED: Office of Gender Equity and Diversity

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