

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Cross Agency Working Group

COMMUNIQUE

On Thursday 31 January 2019, the renewed Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Cross Agency Working Group (CAWG) held its first meeting.

Originally established in 2016 to drive development of the ten-year Northern Territory Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Reduction Framework, membership of the CAWG has been expanded and refreshed.

Northern Territory Government member agencies nominated senior decision makers to the group; domestic, family and sexual violence services networks nominated representatives; and Aboriginal controlled organisations were invited to join the collaborative and inclusive governance body (membership attached).

The shared vision articulated in the [Northern Territory's Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Framework 2018-2028: Safe, Respected and Free from Violence](#), for a Northern Territory where women and children are safe and families are supported, will be implemented through a series of action plans.

The renewed CAWG will drive collaboration, engagement, information sharing and problem resolution as Territory Families and its partner organisations implement [Action Plan 1: Changing Attitudes, Intervening Earlier and Responding Better \(2018-2021\)](#), released on 14 February 2019.

Members from across the Territory travelled to Darwin for the first meeting of the renewed working group. In her opening address, Territory Families' Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Organisational Services, Ms Nicole Hurwood, acknowledged the critical importance of non-government and government partners working together to develop, implement, measure and evaluate the actions arising from Action Plan 1.

The role of the working group was discussed and agreed, and minor amendments to the Terms of Reference proposed.

In addition to a broad discussion of governance and oversight arrangements, the CAWG was presented with progress reports on priority projects arising from Action Plan 1. Papers presented to the CAWG for information, review and input were:

- Reporting framework
- Risk management framework
- Updates on implementing priority Action Plan 1 projects from all involved agencies
- Monitoring and evaluation framework
- Information sharing process and progress report
- Sexual Violence Prevention and Response Framework process and progress report
- Family Safety Framework Review process proposal
- Update on the service and service system reviews commissioned by Territory Families.

For further information please contact the Territory Families Gender Equality and Violence Reduction team by email at TF.DomesticViolenceDirectorate@nt.gov.au.

The CAWG will meet bi-monthly with the next meeting scheduled for 8 April 2019.

Katherine Local Reference Group

Tennant Creek Local Reference Group

