

Domestic Violence NSW position statement on investing to prevent sexual, domestic and sexual violence in NSW

Our position

- Domestic Violence NSW is calling on the NSW Government to **make a committed investment** to ensure the successful implementation of the *NSW Strategy for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence 2024-2027*:
 - \$40 million in year one of the Strategy (in NSW Budget 2024-25),
 - \$20 million per annum in years two, three and four.
- There needs to be an **immediate investment in changing community attitudes and behaviours** through community education and early intervention programs in all settings that can help stop domestic and family violence before it starts:
 - schools
 - grassroots community-based organisations in local communities
 - early childhood centres
 - other education providers (private colleges, TAFE, universities)
 - workplaces
 - sporting associations
 - local government
 - NSW Public Service.
- There needs to be a **focus on men and boys** across all funding streams and investments.

Recommendations

1. Schools – \$15 million to fund respectful relationships education in schools
 - a. \$15 million per annum.
 - b. To ensure a consistent and coordinated approach to respectful relationships education across the state.
 - c. To ensure that all school-aged children and young people receive a minimum standard of education on respectful relationships.
 - d. To ensure a whole-of-school approach that includes teachers and parents (as identified as a priority strategy).
2. Community organisations – \$15 million to fund grassroots/community-based organisations to deliver place-based initiatives in partnership with specialist domestic and family violence services and local government
 - a. \$15 million.
 - b. In partnership with the specialist domestic and family violence sector to leverage expertise.
 - c. To ensure current initiatives are supported and expanded.

- d. Recurrent funding and expansion of existing primary prevention initiatives funded under the Domestic and Family Violence Innovation Fund (i.e. those that have had a favourable evaluation), as well as trialling new, targeted initiatives for priority cohorts (such as men and boys), \$10 million
 - e. Quarantine \$5 million (of the total \$15 million) to specifically support new Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led prevention activities and initiatives.
3. Priority settings – \$9.5 million to fund new prevention initiatives in priority settings
- a. \$9.5 million.
 - b. Funding new initiatives to progress prevention action in priority settings such as early childhood centres, other education providers (private colleges, TAFE, universities), workplaces, sporting associations, local government and the NSW Public Service.
4. Domestic Violence NSW – \$568,000 per annum to fund Domestic Violence NSW to lead and support primary prevention initiatives across NSW
- a. \$568,000 per annum.
 - b. To enable Domestic Violence NSW (DVNSW) to successfully support the NSW Government's implementation of the *NSW Strategy for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence 2024-2027* (draft, not yet released).
 - c. To enable DVNSW to work closely with the NSW Women's Safety Commissioner and Primary Prevention Team within NSW Government to support the scale up of primary prevention work in NSW.
 - d. To leverage DVNSW's existing relationships with local government and the NSW Primary Prevention Collaboration, as well as existing relationships with community-based organisations and DVNSW members.
 - e. To ensure pre-existing primary prevention expertise and community-based programs are coordinated and leveraged to achieve the *NSW Strategy for the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence 2024-2027* (draft, not yet released).
 - f. To fund establishment of a Primary Prevention Community of Practice, convened by DVNSW, to facilitate sector discussions and practical connections across prevention and response (\$18,000 a year for two years), and ensure there is a mechanism to share innovative practices and outcomes.

About Domestic Violence NSW

Domestic Violence NSW is the State's trusted peak body for specialist domestic and family violence services in NSW. Our membership consists of over 180 frontline services across NSW.

Domestic Violence NSW seeks immediate and substantial NSW Government investment to address the crisis of gendered violence against women and children in the 2024-25 NSW Budget to be released in June. Domestic Violence NSW's funding priorities are comprehensively explained in our [Domestic Violence NSW 2024-25 Pre-Budget Submission](#).