

Question on Notice

No. 137

Asked on 9 March 2021

MR D LAST ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the more than 300 breaches of Domestic Violence Protection Orders in Ayr and Home Hill in the year to 29 September 2020—

Will the Attorney-General advise what steps the government is taking to provide the resources and services that victims of domestic violence in the Burdekin Local Government area need?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is committed to the prevention of domestic and family violence. Since 2015 the Queensland Government has committed record investment for domestic and family violence services and implemented all 140 recommendations of the *Not Now, Not Ever* report.

I am advised that in 2020-21 the Burdekin Community Association Inc received \$237,774 in recurrent Queensland Government funding and \$4,538 in one- off COVID-19 brokerage to deliver the Burdekin Domestic and Family Violence Support Service. This funding is distributed between domestic and family violence counselling services (including domestic and family violence counselling services for children) and court-based services.

The Queensland Government is also taking steps to enhance service responses for victims of domestic and family violence across Queensland, including through the trial of online delivery of perpetrator programs and the release of revised practice standards for all domestic and family violence services.

While a lot of positive progress has been made, the Queensland Government will continue to work together with all Queenslanders to ensure our State is a safe place for all. This includes a commitment to tackle the issue of coercive control.

On 17 February 2021 the Premier and Minister for Trade, and the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence announced the establishment of an independent taskforce to examine the issue of coercive control and recommend how best to legislate against coercive control as a form of domestic and family violence. It was subsequently announced on 11 March 2021 that the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce, led by the Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC, will also conduct a wide-ranging review into the experience of women across the criminal justice system.