

THE PROBLEM & THE CASE FOR CHANGE

Domestic and family violence is a public safety crisis.

Across Australia, women are still being killed in their homes. Every week, lives are lost. Every year, more than 120,000 assaults are linked to domestic and family violence.

Despite billions in funding, the system is still failing.

Why? Because the response is fragmented, underfunded, and outsourced.

Right now, services are delivered through a patchwork of NGOs, short-term contracts, and disconnected systems. What help you get often depends on where you live. Many victim-survivors are forced to repeat their story over and over. Critical services don't talk to each other.

- When things go wrong, no one is clearly accountable.
- This is not how we treat other public safety issues.
- We don't outsource policing.
- We don't outsource emergency response.
- Domestic and family violence should be treated the same way.

The current model is failing:

- Services vary depending on postcode
- Short-term funding creates instability and burnout
- There is no single, coordinated system
- Public sector capacity has been hollowed out
- Victim-survivors fall through the cracks

We know what works.

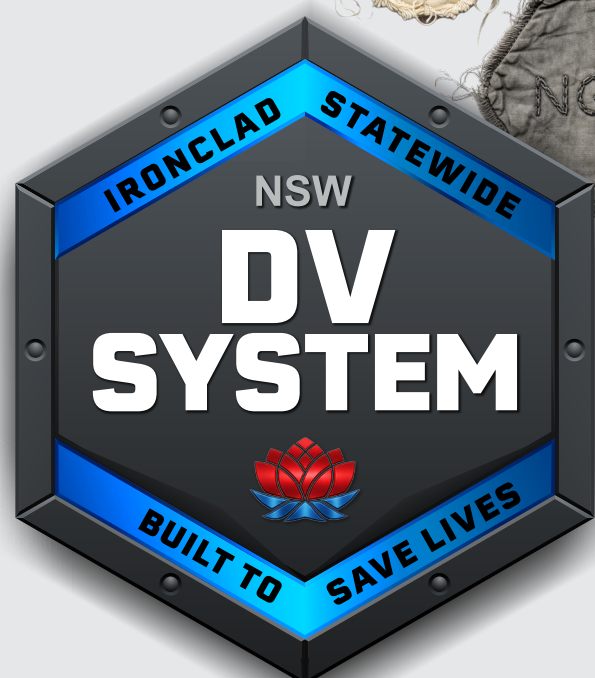
Integrated, government-led services – like the Mount Druitt Family Violence Service – show that coordinated, public systems save lives.

It's time to make this the standard.

Our position is simple:

Domestic and family violence response is too important to outsource completely.

It must be publicly delivered, properly funded, and fully accountable.



5 KEY ACTIONS:

THE SOLUTION

To fix the system and save lives, we are calling for five clear actions:

2 Guarantee long-term funding

- End short-term grants and contracts.
- Provide stable, ongoing funding so services can plan, grow, and retain skilled workers.

4 Join up services

- Create a single, integrated system across police, courts, health, and housing.
 - One shared case file
 - One coordinated response
 - No more repeating the same story
- Access to help should not depend on location.

1 Build Public Sector DFV Services

- Create a dedicated, publicly run Domestic and Family Violence response unit within government.
- Bring key services back into the public sector, including:
 - Crisis response
 - Case management
 - Housing support
 - Court advocacy

3 Make the system accountable

- Set up a public oversight body to track outcomes and performance.
- Ensure failures are reported, investigated, and fixed.
- When lives are at risk, accountability must be clear.

5 Build a skilled public workforce

- Create secure, well-paid public sector roles with proper training and support.
- A strong, professional workforce is essential to keeping people safe.



THE BOTTOM LINE:

Domestic and family violence is a core responsibility of government.

A public system will be:

- More coordinated
- More accountable
- More consistent
- More effective



DVneedsPublicServices.com.au

THIS IS ABOUT SAVING LIVES