
From: Tarryn Chapman [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 20 August 2024 4:27 PM
To: fvpdata
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Proof transcript | Inquiry into capturing data on family violence perpetrators in Victoria

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for the question taken on notice by my colleagues. I would like to provide further context for the comment highlighted by the committee and respond to need for more robust data in this area, as requested by the Hon. Chris Crewther MP.

The full context of the point in our submission is well reiterated by my colleague's advice and referenced in their opening statement; that alignment to the MARAM Framework will enhance data capture and sharing. This will result in a strengthened understanding of perpetrator use of violence, risk escalation, and recidivism to inform interventions and prevention efforts. As noted by my colleagues, current data capture is usually point-in-time and does not effectively illustrate the patterns of behaviour we know occur in family violence contexts.

The information in our submission was informed by feedback from a member agency who provides case management and other support to men who use violence and refers clients to appropriate programs. The member agency noted that the client outcomes of programs such as Men's Behaviour Change and Caring Dads are not readily available after case closure to all agencies with risk management responsibilities, and who frequently engage with returning clients. WIFVC members report that capturing future FV incidents at regular intervals once the programs are completed only occurs if these incidents result in criminal charges, and most family violence does not. Without the opportunity to understand and share the data on incidents that occur after case closure, agencies do not have a full picture of risk for returning clients which makes it difficult to measure, understand and prevent, recidivism. In addition, opportunities and resourcing to triangulate data are yet to be supported by technology or systems. When agencies can access data beyond records of incidents, their understanding of patterns of violence are enhanced, and interventions can be tailored and actioned.

The comment speaks to a common experience within the sector; data is held in siloes, and while sharing is authorised in some relevant circumstances via the Information Sharing Schemes (ISS) (and other legislation), it is not readily enabled by current technology or systems. My colleague Christine Robinson spoke to the importance of co-designed and congruent policies between agencies in order to provide a multi-agency response; current internal agency policy prevents full use of proactive information sharing avenues. Strengthening overall multi-agency responses via MARAM alignment will enhance the data collected and the understanding of this cohort to inform policy and practice moving forward.

I hope this clarifies the point made in our submission, and please do not hesitate to be in touch with further queries.

Kind regards,

Tarryn