



## Pru Goward

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Medical Research

Assistant Minister for Health

Minister for Women

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### HELP SHAPE DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE REFORM

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pru Goward today launched an 8-week public consultation inviting ideas from the domestic and family violence (DFV) sector, community groups and the public on ways to improve responses to victims and perpetrators of DFV in NSW.

Ms Goward said the NSW Government is developing a DFV Blueprint to enhance its response to DFV, and she wants the public to have their say.

“We want to start a broad conversation with the public to gain a better understanding of what works in the current service system, what doesn’t work and where there are any gaps,” Ms Goward said.

“DFV services play a critical role in delivering services and support to people escaping violence every day. I want to say thank you for your tireless work in helping keep our most vulnerable families safe, especially ahead of the festive period where we see extra strain on family relationships and more demand for DFV services. It has been a big year for you all and we are grateful for all you do.”

“I look forward to working with the DFV sector throughout 2016 as we co-design and improve services for people affected by DFV.

Ms Goward said input from the DFV sector and the public is vital for informing the future direction of services and support to help break the cycle of domestic violence.

“I encourage everyone to have their say to help inform the way the NSW Government, service providers and the community respond to DFV,” Ms Goward said.

The consultation is now open and closes **5pm Friday 5 February 2016**. To join the conversation visit <http://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/consultations/domestic-and-family-violence-response/?date=2015-12-04&id=1367>

The public consultation is part of a multi-stage consultation process, which commenced in September with peak government and non-government agencies.

The Government has achieved significant DFV reforms this year including video evidence in courts; updating the mandatory NSW 7-10 PDHPE syllabus to explicitly include domestic violence; expanding Safer Pathway to a further four sites; funding community based Men’s Behaviour Change Programs and introducing plain English ADVOs.

These reforms are further supported by a \$60 million package announced in October that targets perpetrators and supports people who experience DFV.