

Attachment B

From: COMMISSIONER
Sent: Tuesday, 10 May 2022 13:00
To: All QPS; QPS ALL STAFF MEMBERS; QPS ALL POLICE OFFICERS; QPS Chaplains
Subject: Announcement of Commission of Inquiry

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Dear colleagues

As you may be aware, the *Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce* is an independent body established by the State Government to examine domestic and family violence (DFV) issues in Queensland. One of the recommendations from the taskforce's report, released in December 2021, was a 'Commission of Inquiry' to examine the Queensland Police Service's (QPS) investigation of DFV incidents.

Today it was announced a four-month Commission of Inquiry will hear the testimony of DFV victims and make recommendations to improve their treatment. This announcement came amongst a range of other proposals including new coercive control laws and expansion of DFV courts.

The QPS does an incredible amount of work in the DFV space. On average, our police attend more than 300 DFV incidents a day. It is an enormous and challenging issue for not only us, but the broader Queensland community. I would ask that you welcome today's announcement as an opportunity to both strengthen our protection of society's most vulnerable and improve the systems we work with.

In their announcement this morning, the State Government recognised the exemplary role of the police in responding to DFV incidents. However, for some time now, there have been serious incidents bringing attention to this issue and on occasion, DFV responses have not met the expectations of the community. This inquiry poses a chance for us, as a Service, to learn and improve how we handle these matters.

The QPS, through the Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command, is continually implementing initiatives to better equip our frontline. Some of these are already underway, including:

- The [High Risk High Harm Dashboard](#) to provide districts with real time data analytics to more effectively target and track DFV high risk high harm perpetrators
- Coercive Control training for all members of the Service
- Enhancements to QLITE devices to give frontline members better access to and understanding of DFV relationships and offending
- The impending Video Recorded Evidence trial to allow DFV statements to be taken by body worn camera, to reduce ongoing trauma for victims.

We are also continuing to work with our partners and the community as we know eliminating DFV is shared responsibility, and we cannot perform this work alone. Your leaders will also continue to advocate for more streamlined processes so you can tackle this issue more timely and effectively.

The QPS does not shy away from the opportunity to improve, and we will welcome any recommendations to enhance our DFV response. I will update you as more information about the inquiry becomes available. In the meantime, I encourage you to follow the [Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command](#) on Workplace to receive important and regular updates about our work in this space.

Thank you again for your efforts and working to keep Queensland communities safe.

Kind regards

Steve Gollschewski APM
ACTING COMMISSIONER



Our values are at the core of who we are and what we do each day

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