

**Commission of Inquiry into QPS responses to DFV
Question for Commissioner**

10: Since Assistant Commissioner Codd gave evidence on 4 August 2022, the Queensland Police Service has provided the Commission of Inquiry with a number of intelligence assessments that are relevant to domestic and family violence. Have they previously been provided to the Command?

29 intelligence assessments concerning DFV and/or sexual offences in general were provided to the Commission pursuant to Notice 2.034. Inspection of the documents' distribution lists and enquiries with their authors have ascertained that the following five assessments have been formally provided to the DFV Command or individual managers within that Command:

- Domestic Family Violence - An analysis of serious offender characteristics to identify high risk and recidivist domestic violence offenders in Queensland;
- Domestic and Family Violence in the Torres Strait and the Northern Peninsula Area;
- Outlaw Motorcycle Gang members involved in Domestic and Family Violence (2018); and
- SIFC Intelligence Assessment - What is the likely impact of COVID-19 on regional Queensland domestic and family violence occurrences?
- Intelligence Assessment - Can animal cruelty be used as an indicator of serious violence in a domestic and family relationship?

The remaining 25 assessments were disseminated to relevant intelligence and command offices at regional and district levels, however records do not indicate that they were directly provided to the DFV Command.

11: In relation to the review of the likely impact of COVID-19 on regional Queensland domestic and family violence occurrences undertaken in April 2020:

- a. **Was this provided to the Command upon its establishment?**
- b. **If so, which of the strategies and tactics has the Command implemented?**

This intelligence assessment/document was completed by the State Intelligence Group, Crime and Intel Command (CIC) in April 2020. While there is no record of the document being formally provided to the Domestic Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command upon its establishment on 26 February 2021, the dissemination list reflects that it was provided to Chief Superintendent Ben Martain when he was attached to the Community Contact Command, which later became the DFV Command. The State DFV&VPU reviewed the document and provided feedback to CIC.

The DFV Command has not directly implemented the strategies and tactics recommended in the document, however the following recommendations have been progressed through other means:

- *QPS to consider increasing the number of HRDFVTs in regional populations centres*
The Department of Justice and Attorney-General has lead responsibility for funding High Risk Domestic and Family Violence Teams. There are eight established Teams (Brisbane, Mackay, Cairns, Ipswich, Cherbourg, Lagan, Moreton and Mt Isa). DJAG and QPS are looking for opportunities where an appropriate non-government agency exists with adequate support service to establish additional teams.
- *It is recommended QPS reinforce the need for operational staff to consider the relevance of 'controlling' or 'coercive behaviour' in DFV occurrences during the COVID-19 response*
The QPS released the DFV Policing Enhancement Training Online Learning Product (QC1767_01) on 28 June 2021, the Coercive Control Online Learning Product on 31 January 2022, and Operational Advisory Note 4-2021 on 10 December 2021 with content concerning coercive control.

Additionally, QPS has taken steps beyond those recommended in the document in order to better address DFV in the circumstances of COVID-19:

- An alternative online/SMS reporting option for members of the public to request police contact in relation to Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) incidents was brought online in April 2020. This system remains active and was specifically developed to cater to persons isolating due to COVID-19.
- In May 2021 a trial unit of two dedicated DFV coordinators located within the Brisbane Police Communications Centre recommenced in response to COVID-19. The dedicated DFV coordinators support frontline members across the state and operate during periods of peak demand to provide additional support on legislation, policy and practice, appropriate responses and identification of appropriate support and referral pathways for victims and offenders. This unit remains active and has now expanded to six positions.

12: In relation to the review of outlaw motorcycle gangs and domestic and family violence undertaken in October 2021:

- a. **Was this provided to the Command?**
- b. **If so, has the further research it recommended been undertaken?**

This document was disseminated to the Organised Crime Gangs Group of the Crime and Intelligence Command. Records do not indicate that it was supplied to the Domestic Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command.

Crime and Intelligence Command continue to undertake research into opportunities to prevent community members from becoming victims of DFV. The Organised Crime Gangs Group monitors daily OMCG activities to identify opportunities to support victims and pursue offenders, working closely with district DFV&VPUs and external agencies.

Further research was recommended to be repeated after 12-24 months to determine any changing patterns. The 12-24 month period recommended by the document has not yet elapsed.

QUESTION 13: How does the Queensland Police Service ensure that intelligence assessments are translated into practice and monitored?

Intelligence assessments are designed to inform the requesting unit of current and emerging issues and problems, with a view to informing their decision-making process. They are provided to the requestor and any other area that is considered relevant.

The QPS intelligence cycle includes a review stage which is considered for all intelligence products. The type and level of feedback and the formal documenting of that feedback is dependent on a range of factors including:

- the focus of the intelligence product (i.e. tactical, operational, strategic);
- the type of intelligence product being produced; and
- the timeframes involved.

The QPS intelligence capability continues to utilise this review process, incorporating feedback by peers, supervisors, and requesting units.

Ongoing development of the intelligence capability framework provides an opportunity to review current dissemination and review processes, and implement changes where required.

While a centralised aspect of the QPS intelligence capability sits within the Crime and Intelligence Command, there are 238 approved permanent FTE intelligence positions that sit within districts across the state, providing localised intelligence capability.