

Queensland Police Service

Domestic and Family Violence Doctrine



Domestic and family violence (DFV) is a serious and complex criminal justice, health and social issue within our community. DFV is defined broadly by legislation in Queensland as when one person within a relevant relationship uses violence and/or abuse to maintain power and control over the other person. DFV disproportionately affects women and children and causes significant harm within our communities.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) is committed to the support of all aspects of the DFV sector in the Queensland community and has a critical policing role in the prevention, disruption, response to, and investigation of DFV. Our responsibilities, guiding principles and powers are enshrined in legislation, as well as QPS and government policy.

OUR GOAL

To contribute to the achievement of the vision and key outcome of the Queensland Government's *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-2026*:

- a Queensland free from DFV
- all Queenslanders feel safe in their own homes and children can grow and develop in safe and secure environments.

OUR COMMITMENT

Together we will:

- promote an organisational culture that rejects DFV, respects and promotes human rights and engages community and partner agencies to prevent and reduce the harm of DFV
- continually improve and evolve our response capability, including the use of technology, ensuring our members have up to date knowledge and insight of the controlling behaviours, tactics and threats often employed by perpetrators
- work collaboratively with the DFV service sector and partner agencies to accurately assess risk, implement victim safety plans and hold perpetrators to account
- take effective action to protect victims from DFV and support them to feel safe, in a manner responsive to their needs and takes account of their views and wishes, including by connecting victims to appropriate specialist support services
- improve identification of victims in most need of protection by moving to a pattern-based (course of conduct) and future focused investigative approach, recognising the cumulative effects of DFV upon victims and their children, rather than only relying on an incident-based approach
- thoroughly investigate and prosecute breaches of domestic violence orders and related criminal offences
- disrupt perpetrators through targeted and graduated interventions to attempt to prevent and end the cycle of DFV.

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