

The logo consists of three overlapping, rounded shapes in orange, teal, and light green. A white speech bubble-like shape is centered within the orange shape, containing the text "SAFE HOMES FAMILIES COMMUNITIES" in a bold, sans-serif font.

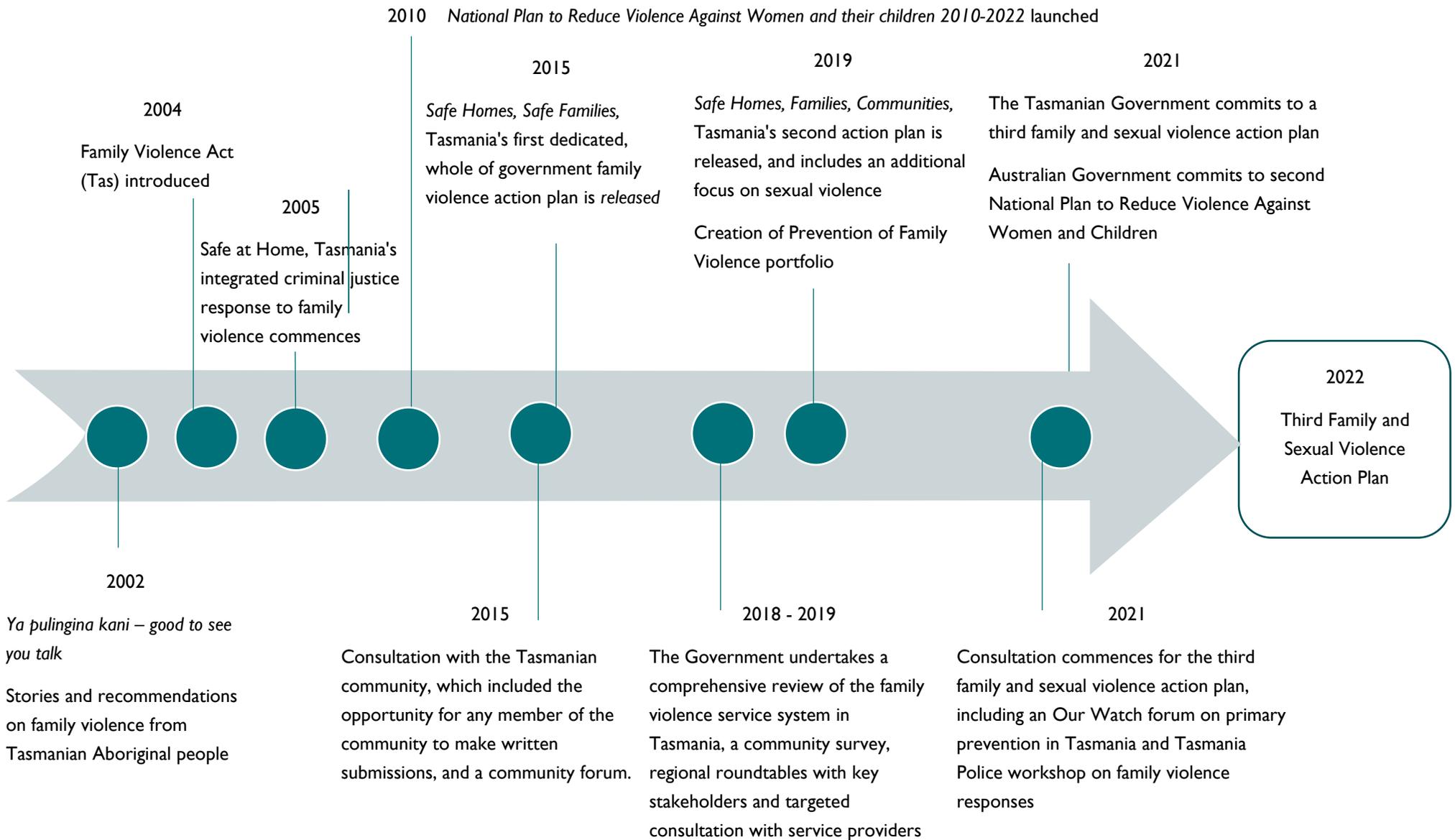
**SAFE
HOMES
FAMILIES
COMMUNITIES**

THE THIRD TASMANIAN FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE ACTION PLAN

CONSULTATION BRIEF

FEBRUARY 2022

The third action plan in context – a timeline



Introduction

Eliminating family and sexual violence continues to be a priority of the Tasmanian Government.

Since 2015, when we launched our first Family Violence Action Plan, the Tasmanian Government has invested an additional \$61.3 million in specific family and sexual violence responses.

This includes \$26 million to deliver 40 actions under *Safe Homes, Families, Communities: Tasmania's action plan for family and sexual violence 2019-2022*, and is on top of the \$19 million in direct funding and \$59 million in indirect funding annually for government services that prevent and respond to family and sexual violence.

In March 2021, the Government committed to the development of a third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan (Action Plan) with fully funded, evidence-based initiatives, in consultation with the Family and Sexual Violence Community Consultative Group and people with lived experience.

An overview of the governance for the Action Plan is provided under 'Governance'.

Purpose

This Consultation Brief has been developed for key government and non-government stakeholders to provide an overview of key consultation activity being undertaken to inform development of the Action Plan.

Other elements of the development of the Action Plan are outlined under 'Further Inputs'.

Proposed areas of focus

Over 6 years of implementation, the Tasmanian Government has focussed on broad prevention and response strategies, and service system reform. We have accumulated knowledge and understanding of the approaches and responses that work and make a real difference in the lives of Tasmanians. There are many initiatives which are now embedded in and form core business of Tasmanian Government agencies and community services. These will need to be supported, for long-term sustainability.

This is a strong basis from which to develop a third Action Plan. The new Action Plan provides an opportunity to build on our learnings, to ensure the long-term sustainability of core services and responses, to further refine and target effort, and evaluate progress.

The third Action Plan will have a strong focus on improving outcomes for Tasmanian Aboriginal people, based around the four priority reform areas of the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*, and Aboriginal people will be empowered to lead responses in their communities.

The following focus areas for the third Action Plan have been developed to stimulate early discussion and organise potential actions and initiatives.

Discussion and feedback on these areas of focus will be welcomed throughout consultation.

Feedback on the draft focus areas, together with what we hear throughout our consultation – in particular, what we hear from people with lived experience – will help to shape the overarching vision for the Action Plan.

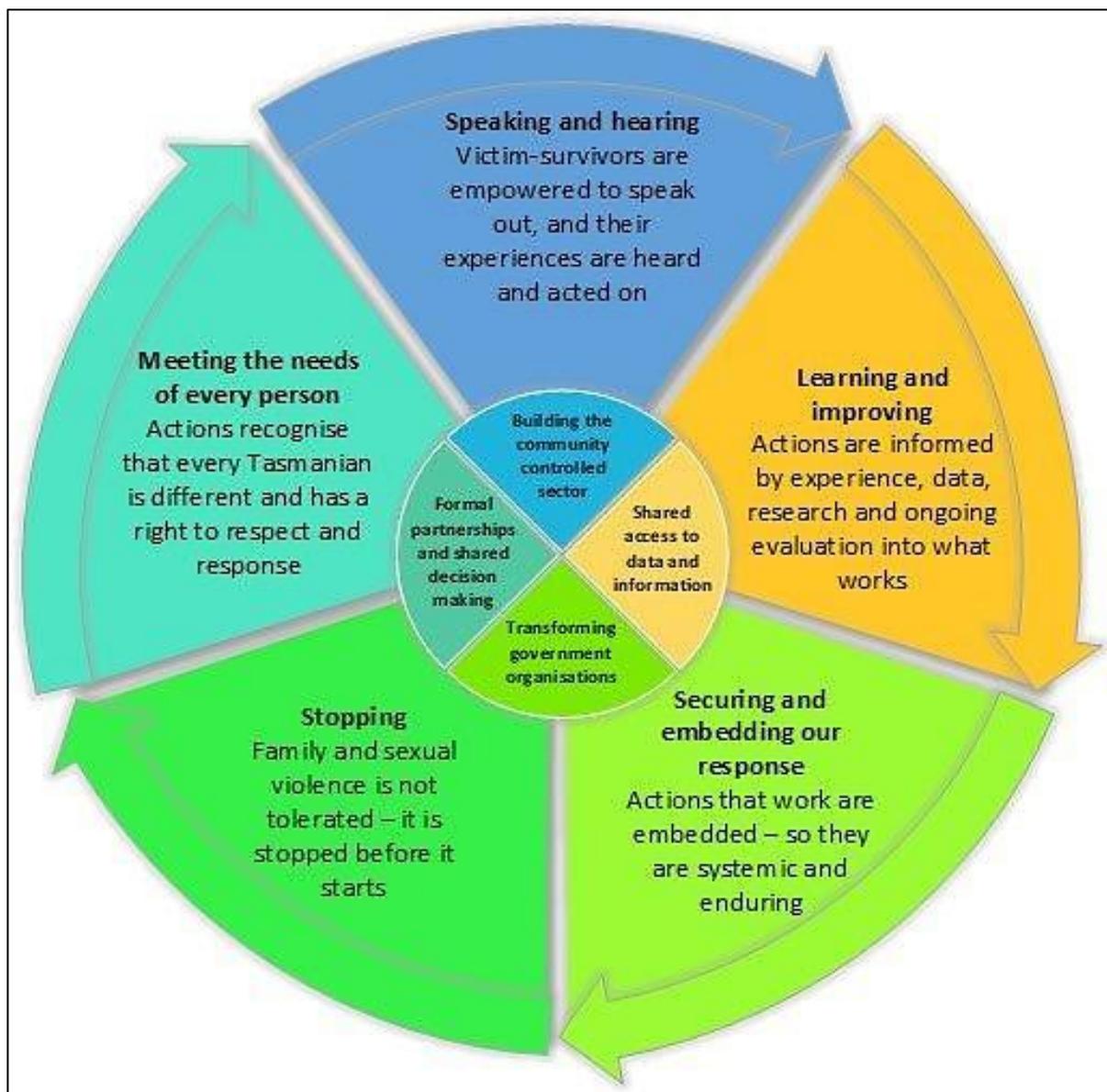


Figure 1: **Working Draft** focus areas for the third Family and Sexual Violence Action Plan

Community collaboration and consultation

The voice of victim-survivors is at the centre of our proposed approach to consult and collaborate with the Tasmanian community, specialist service sector and key stakeholders.

Community consultation will commence in February 2022 and will involve five key elements outlined below.

We recognise that to undertake a trauma informed, and fully supported consultation we will need to work with specialist services to ensure that access to help is available. This will be a key aspect of the consultation.

Hearing Lived Experience Survey 2022

A public online survey of adult victim-survivors with lived experience of family and sexual violence. The survey will be open for 12 months.

The survey will build on the first survey of lived experience undertaken in 2018, (which informed *Safe Homes, Families, Communities*). The new Survey will be expanded to include sexual violence beyond intimate partner sexual violence and designed and promoted to help capture the experience of people who may not have engaged with services.

The survey will be promoted through a state-wide communications strategy over the first 8 weeks from launch, with a first summary report in April 2022 to inform development of the third Action Plan. Quarterly reports thereafter will inform the ongoing implementation of the third Action Plan.

For people without internet access, a printed booklet seeking feedback on key themes of the survey will be circulated state-wide. Further detail on the survey is included in the FAQ section.

Victim-Survivor Advisory Council

A Victim-Survivor Advisory Council will be established to advise the Tasmanian Government, through the Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence during the life of the Action Plan.

Workshops

Small group workshops with members of the Family and Sexual Violence Community Consultative Group and other key stakeholders will be held.

These workshops, to be held in March 2022, will focus on priority groups of people and/or priority themes for action, including how we hear from and work with children and young people during the life of the Action Plan. The workshops will provide an opportunity deep dive and explore key themes and issues.

Partnering with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community

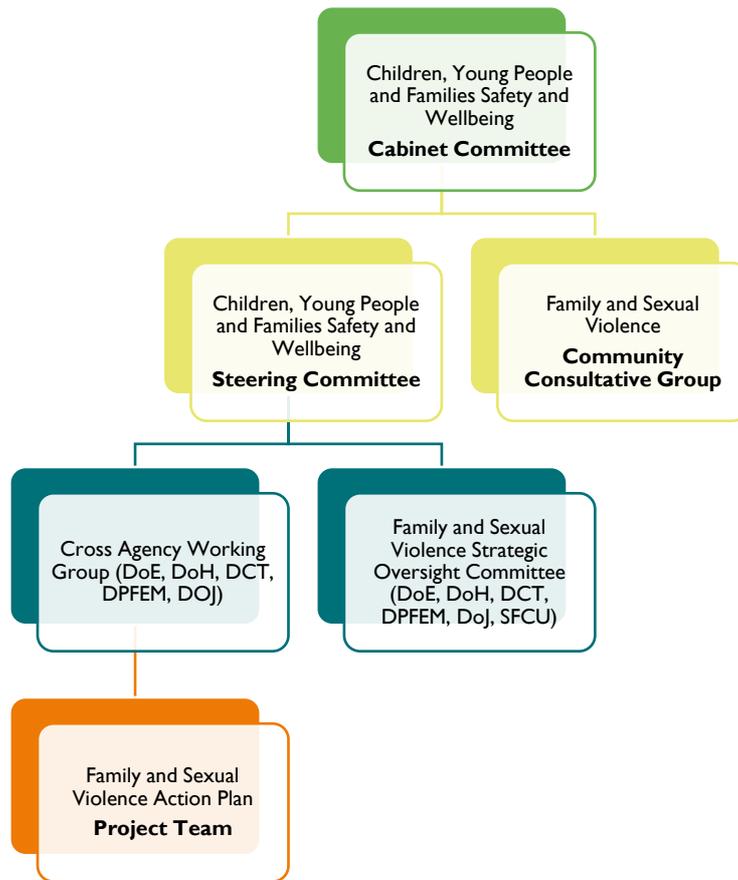
The third Action Plan will include an integrated set of actions to achieve Target 13 and Outcome 13 in the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*; 'A significant and sustained reduction in violence and abuse against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and children to zero.'

The Tasmanian Government will work in partnership with the Aboriginal community during development and implementation of the Action Plan, enacting the four priority reform areas of the *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*: formal partnerships and shared decision making; building the community-controlled sector; transforming government organisations; and shared access to data and information at a regional level.

Written submissions

A public invitation to provide written submissions will open in February 2022.

This will be a brief paper with questions designed around topics being explored through the small group workshops, such as priority themes for action and/or priority groups of people.



Governance and strategic oversight for the development of the third Action Plan will be provided through the Children, Young People and Families Safety and Wellbeing Governance Framework. This will ensure coordination and alignment in the development of the third Action Plan, with interrelated work being undertaken across Government.

The Cross Agency Working Group, reporting to the Steering Committee, will provide feedback and endorsements on key milestones and outputs throughout development of the third Action Plan. The Community Consultative Group will be a critical partner in providing feedback, evidence, and information to develop the third Action Plan.

Research and Evidence

A literature review of relevant contemporary research and evidence related to the prevention, intervention and response to family violence will be undertaken as part of the developing the third Action Plan.

Jurisdictional Scan

A comprehensive scan of national and interstate approaches to preventing, intervening and responding to family and sexual violence will be undertaken as part of developing the third Action Plan. This will include:

- the 2020 Australian Government Inquiry into Family Domestic and Sexual Violence
- the NSW Joint Select Committee on Coercive Control, and National Principles to address coercive control being developed through the Meeting of Attorneys General
- emerging themes from consultation to inform development of the next National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and Children
- family and sexual violence related issues raised through the Disability Royal Commission.

Intra-Governmental Consultation

In addition to consultation with non-government stakeholders and the Tasmanian community, the Department of Communities Tasmania will also undertake the following consultation and collaboration activities across Government. This will include:

- Ongoing consultation with Tasmanian Government agencies through the existing Cross Agency Working Group and with key Communities Tasmania partners (such as the Family Violence Counselling and Support Service, Housing and Community Services Policy and Programs), including agencies review of new actions under the current plan.
- Review of key findings and recommendations from the Family Violence Service System Review (2019) and Hearing Lived Experience Survey, including if and/or how these have been addressed under the current plan.
- Engagement with the Demand, Assess, Track, Action (DATA) project to inform evidence-based policy and data reporting capability.

Community consultation during 2021

- Our Watch Primary Prevention Hub Tasmanian Forum, 30 November 2021
- Tasmanian delegation for the National Summit on Women's Safety, 6 – 7 September 2021
- Tasmania Police Response to Family Violence Workshop, 10 August 2021
- Tasmanian delegation for the National Summit on Women's Safety workshop with Monash University, 23 July 2021

Who will develop the survey?

- The survey is being developed by the Department of Communities Tasmania in consultation with key government and non-government stakeholders, including those who contributed to the development of the 2018 survey.
- The survey will build upon the format of the 2018 survey.

What is different about the 2022 survey?

- The 2022 survey is expanded to include sexual violence experienced as an adult, beyond sexual violence that occurs between intimate partners.
- Where the first survey focused on hearing about recent experiences with specialist or mainstream services in Tasmania, the 2022 survey will also seek the experiences of victim-survivors who have not engaged with services.

How long will the survey run for?

- The survey will open in mid-February and be open for 12 months.
- A summary report of findings from the first 8 weeks of the survey will be produced by April 2022 to inform development of the third Action Plan.
- This approach will ensure that what we hear from victim-survivors informs development of the third action plan during the first half of 2022, while allowing sufficient time to hear from victim-survivors over the further ten months.
- This approach is part of the Tasmanian Government's commitment to ongoing work with victim-survivors during the life of the Action Plan – not just during the development phase.

How will the survey be promoted?

- The survey will be promoted statewide over 8 weeks from the launch date.
- Promotion will include radio advertising, print media (local newspapers), social media advertising. Posters with a QR code to the survey will be distributed through outlets accessible by the community as well as specialist and mainstream services.

The survey is online. What if people don't have access to the internet?

- In addition to the online survey, reply-paid booklets that ask for feedback on key themes from the survey will be incorporated in a booklet format for written responses. These will be distributed through outlets accessible by the community.

What measures are you taking to support people's safety to complete the survey?

- The survey features a Quick Exit button, information on completing the survey safely, and key emergency and service support information is featured throughout the survey. This will also be featured in the booklet version of the survey.
- As with the 2018 survey, Communities Tasmania will seek the assistance of specialist service providers to support clients to fill out the survey as required.

Are survey responses anonymous?

- Yes, all responses are anonymous. A third-party research company has been contracted to host the online survey and will also receive the hard-copy booklets.
- All information provided in reports to the Tasmanian Government will be de-identified and managed in accordance with the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.



Tasmanian
Government

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