



Australian Government
Department of Social Services

EXECUTIVE MINUTE

on

JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT
REPORT No. 481

*Efficiency and Effectiveness: Inquiry into Auditor-General's Reports 25, 29, 38, 42, 44, 45 and 51
(2018-19)*

Recommendation No: 7.

The Committee recommends that the Department of Social Services implement a risk management plan for the final delivery of the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022, and any successive plans that the department delivers.

Summary of response: agreed

Supporting rationale:

A risk management plan for the implementation of the Fourth Action Plan of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and Their Children 2010–2022* (National Plan) is in place. Risk management plans will be developed for any plans the Department of Social Services delivers against the successor to the National Plan.

Recommendation No: 8.

The Committee recommends that the Department of Social Services:

- *Expand its Annual Report and Portfolio Budget Statements to provide information as to how the outcome being reported against was either 'met' or 'not met' against specific metrics regarding the National Plan, and;*
- *Publicly report in the Annual Progress Reports for the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 and for any successive plans on outcomes and achievements. This should include evidence on actions taken by governments and achievements of actions relating to each of the six National Outcomes.*
- *Monitor and publicly report their progress against the Implementation Plan for the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022.*

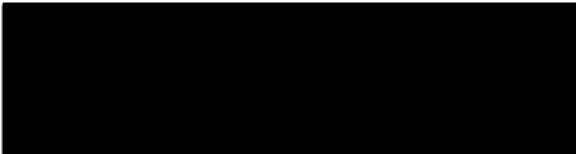
Summary of response: agreed

Supporting rationale:


- The Portfolio Budget Statements (PBS) provide high level performance information for current, ongoing programs, and Annual Performance Statements report on the actual performance results against the PBS and analysis of the factors that contributed to these results. Since 2018–19, the Department of Social Services Annual Performance Statement has provided expanded information as to how the outcome (extent of progress in implementing the National Plan) was 'met'. This reporting has included information on key initiatives under the National Plan, and trends in data from the National Community Attitudes towards Violence against Women Survey and Personal Safety Survey.
- The Portfolio Budget Statements 2020–21 for the Social Services Portfolio include a commitment to the following target: "Successful implementation of department's actions to

contribute towards a reduction in women experiencing family, domestic and sexual violence and a reduction in attitudes supportive of violence”.

- The Annual Progress Reports for the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan will include public reporting on outcomes and achievements, including evidence on actions taken by governments that are included in the National Implementation Plan and which support the six National Outcomes. Outcomes and achievements will be reported on for the successor National Plan.
- The Annual Progress Reports will include reporting on the progress of the National Implementation Plan.



Kathryn Campbell AO CSC
Secretary

 November 2020