

Victorian family violence Government Monitor warns: focus on long-term family violence reform

On 10 May 2018, the Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor launched its first independent report on the implementation of the Victorian Government's landmark Royal Commission into Family Violence (RCFV) recommendations.

In total, the RCFV handed down 227 recommendations, all of which the Victorian Labor Government committed to honour. As of 1 November 2017, of the 227 recommendations, the Labor Government had completed 63 of them, with the remainder fully in progress.

At its core, the recommendations are anchored by the safety of women and children affected by men's use of family violence, and former and current victim/survivors' lived experiences of family violence.

The CEO from No to Violence, Australia's largest peak body representing organisations and practitioners working to end men's use of family violence, says:

"To say that we're pleased by this level of governmental commitment to fulfil all 227 recommendations is an understatement. In 2016, we welcomed this commitment, and now the Government Monitor's report. However, given the scale, depth and breadth of this leading family violence reform, we wish to echo Tim Cartwright's [Family Violence Reform Implementation Monitor] sentiments expressed in the report launched today.

"A reform of this scale takes considerable time, whole-of-government coordination, and meaningful, transparent consultation with leading family violence agencies. We appreciate that the complete gamut of the recommendations will take a decade to fulfil, if not longer. According to the Victorian Government, it is expected that by the end of 2018, around 70 per cent of the recommendations would have been completed. Unequivocally, we now need governmental commitment to shore up ongoing funding and long-term investment in all recommendations handed down by the RCFV; particularly those that integrate the justice and social service systems, keeping men who use family violence in view."

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Further interview and photo opportunities also possible on request.