



Speech By  
**Hon. Shannon Fentiman**


**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 15 July 2015

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Budget, Domestic and Family Violence**

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (2.25 pm): Members of this House will know that I am passionate about the Palaszczuk government's commitment to reducing the devastating effects of domestic and family violence, which is why I was so pleased that the budget the Treasurer handed down yesterday includes a significant allocation to begin the government's response to the Domestic and Family Violence Task Force report. I joined the Premier last week to announce a \$31.3 million suite of initiatives including the trial of a specialist domestic and family violence Magistrates Court with a dedicated magistrate to commence in Southport in September; additional funding of \$3 million over four years to establish an independent Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board and expand the domestic and family violence review unit; and \$1.1 million to expand the Domestic Violence Duty Lawyer Service to 14 locations through Legal Aid Queensland. This package also includes \$19.9 million over four years to establish and operate crisis shelters in Brisbane and Townsville, providing critical safety and support for women and children escaping domestic and family violence; working with the domestic and family violence sector to develop models for the seamless delivery of domestic and family violence services to improve outcomes for those affected by violence in rural, remote and urban areas; and \$3 million towards a national campaign designed to reduce violence against women and their children, as the Premier committed to at COAG. This has been well received by the sector. In fact, it was described by key stakeholders as 'a watershed moment' and 'something we've waited years for'.

I want to acknowledge for the record that it was a good thing that the Domestic and Family Violence Task Force was established. Quentin Bryce and her team methodically worked through domestic and family violence across Queensland, presenting the new government with a road map for action. The Palaszczuk government is carefully considering each and every one of those recommendations and will respond more fully in the near future. We are committed to looking at this incredibly complex issue in a methodical and comprehensive way. The government has conducted a series of round tables with stakeholders right across the state to inform our full response. We have met with hundreds of participants across the length and breadth of Queensland. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has participated and contributed to the government's comprehensive consideration and development of our response to the task force report and Queensland's draft Domestic and Family Violence Strategy. Queensland will finally have a plan to tackle this issue, having been the only state without one.