

## Question on Notice

No. 698

Asked on Friday, 17 July 2015

MS FARMER asked the Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON S FENTIMAN)—

### QUESTION

With reference to Our Watch to which the Queensland Government recently signed up—

Will the Minister detail how this will contribute to domestic and family violence prevention in Queensland?

### ANSWER

The Queensland Government is committed to addressing domestic and family violence as a high priority and is carefully considering the findings of the report of the Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland — *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an end to domestic and family violence in Queensland*.

The Taskforce was established to examine the nature and impacts of domestic and family violence and propose strategies to strengthen responses. Its report provides a framework for a whole-of-government and whole-of-community response to this devastating social issue.

The Palaszczuk Government has already taken some big steps towards addressing the issues raised in the Taskforce report.

In the 2015–16 Budget, the Government committed \$31.3 million over four years to a range of initiatives to tackle domestic and family violence.

Queensland is also contributing \$3 million to a national campaign to prevent violence against women and their children.

The Taskforce highlights it is the responsibility of the whole community to challenge the attitudes that underpin violence against women and children, and extends beyond legislation and government programs to our living rooms, pubs, parks, streets and schools.

The mission of Our Watch is closely aligned with the findings of the *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an end to domestic and family violence in Queensland* report of the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence. The report highlights the need for a strong primary prevention focus to bring about sustainable attitudinal change in relation to violence against women in Queensland.

Applying for membership of Our Watch signals Queensland's intentions to play a key role in a national movement to eliminate violence against women and children. This organisation is a key partner under the *National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children*, and has a clear mandate and focus around the prevention of violence against women and their children.

Queensland, along with other states, will have input into the development by Our Watch of a National Framework to Prevent Violence against Women and their Children.

This framework will bring together the international research and nationwide experience on what works to prevent gender-based violence, and will ensure Queensland has access to the knowledge and resources needed to make a difference in this area.

I look forward to the opportunities membership of Our Watch will bring Queensland in our ongoing quest to prevent domestic and family violence.