

Question on Notice

No. 642

Asked on 22 June 2022

MR J LISTER ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

Will the Attorney-General advise (a) if the Department of Justice and Attorney-General keeps data on the number of people that have accessed the Domestic and Family Violence Information Sharing Guidelines, including the accompanying video and (b) if so, give a breakdown of this data, by year, since it was launched in 2017?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Southern Downs for the question.

The Domestic and Family Violence Information Sharing Guidelines (the Guidelines) are a vital resource supporting frontline practitioners to understand legislative provisions for information sharing between government and non-government agencies in order to improve the safety of victims of domestic and family violence and better hold perpetrators to account.

I am advised the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) is able to estimate the number of people who have accessed the Guidelines, including the accompanying video, since April 2021 when this content was transferred to DJAG following machinery of government changes.

Between 28 April 2021 (the approximate date that the Guidelines were published on the DJAG website) to 28 June 2022, the Guidelines were accessed via the DJAG publication portal approximately 1,800 times - a significant number of downloads.

Between 28 April 2021 to 28 June 2022, there were also approximately 50 click-throughs from the DJAG webpage to the Guidelines video, developed by the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research. As at 30 June 2022, YouTube lists over 2,000 views of the Information Sharing Guideline video since 15 September 2020.

Prior to this time, the Guidelines and accompanying video were within the portfolio of the former Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women (DCSYW).

The Information Sharing Guidelines were launched at the same time as the High Risk Teams trial sites in late 2016. The initial training about the Guidelines was intensive, taking place over two days. The training was delivered state-wide by an external training provider. The training is now a fixed module of the face-to-face training for the Common Risk and Safety Framework (CRASF). At this time the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research in Mackay were engaged to design and promote the YouTube video based on the Guidelines. The video is heavily promoted to non-government organisations working and partnering with domestic and family services and to Queensland agencies with intersection to one of the eight High Risk Teams across the State.

The Queensland Government is committed to the continuous improvement of integrated service responses to domestic and family violence and to supporting practitioners and staff to understand and correctly apply the information sharing provisions.

In line with the recommendations of the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce and the Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board, the Queensland Government has committed to reviewing and updating the Guidelines to provide a plain English and easy to use guide, and to further increase awareness, understanding, and consistent use of the information sharing provisions across the integrated service system.

Following the development of revised Information Sharing Guidelines, the Queensland Government will engage in a communications and training strategy to support stakeholders across the integrated service system to understand the domestic and family violence information sharing provisions. Communication about the Information Sharing Guidelines and underlying legislation will continue to utilise a broad range of vehicles and styles including face to face promotion at networking meetings, promotion of the website and inclusion of information about the Information Sharing Guideline in partner training including with the Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy.

This promotion across networks and agencies will support consistent information sharing practices, help to facilitate timely, accurate, holistic, and informed risk management and safety planning, and inform actions to hold perpetrators to account.