



Women's safety

2022-23 October Budget

What was announced in the 2022-23 October Budget?

The measures announced in the 2022-23 October Budget underpin the Commonwealth's commitment to the new National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032.

Women's safety

Violence is preventable if Australia takes a coordinated and sustained approach to addressing the social, cultural, political and economic factors that drive gendered violence.

In this Budget, the Australian Government will provide \$225.2 million in funding for prevention activities which aim to stop violence against women and children from occurring in the first place by addressing its underlying drivers. This includes:

- \$104.4 million in funding for the national leading organisation for primary prevention of family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia, Our Watch
- \$46 million to continue the award-winning *Stop it at the Start* campaign
- \$32.2 million for a new campaign to better inform young people and adults about the importance of consensual and respectful relationships
- \$23.3 million in funding for Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS), to ensure policy interventions continue to be evidence-based, open and accessible
- \$18.3 million to continue grants under the previous National Plan to provide continuity of service delivery while arrangements are settled under the new National Plan
- \$1 million to establish an advisory group to ensure engagement with victim-survivors throughout the life of the First Action Plan of the new National Plan.

The Government will also fund up to \$185.8 million for early intervention programs, delivering a holistic response that stops the escalation of violence and protects victim-survivors. This funding will include:

- \$40.4 million for Specialised Family Violence Services to assist individuals and couples experiencing violence
- \$39.7 million to continue funding for Lifeline Australia to deliver DV-Alert, a nationally accredited training program designed to help health, allied health and

community frontline workers better understand and identify domestic and family violence and improve their referral and support skills

- \$30 million to contribute to outcomes under *Safe and Supported: the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2021-2031*
- \$12.6 million for accredited training to be provided to health, judicial and other frontline workers
- \$10.8 million to continue funding No To Violence for a Men's Referral Service, offering confidential telephone counselling and referrals for perpetrators of domestic violence to help change their behaviour, and the Brief Intervention Service, which provides multi-session telephone counselling to men seeking support to change their violence or controlling behaviour
- \$3.6 million for Helping Children Heal, to support children aged 6-12 years who are struggling to reach developmental, social and educational milestones due to family and domestic violence
- \$34.8 million for a national early intervention trial for young men and adolescent boys aged 12-18 years who present with adverse childhood experiences including family and domestic violence, and who are at risk of perpetrating family, domestic or sexual violence
- \$13.9 million to establish a number of small scale grants to address emerging priorities identified once the First Action Plan of the National Plan is finalised.

The package will also provide a range of supports to keep women safe and hold perpetrators to account. This includes:

- Continuing the Escaping Violence Payment, including \$240 million over 2023-24 to 2025-26 to assist eligible individuals to access financial assistance to establish a home free from violence.
- \$100 million over 5 years to continue the Safe Places Emergency Accommodation Program with a focus on First Nations women and children, women and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and women and children with disability
- \$57.9 million over 5 years to continue the Keeping Women Safe in Their Homes and Safe Phones Programs
- \$12.6 million over 2 years to continue the Temporary Visa Holders Experiencing Violence Pilot, to support eligible victim-survivors of family and domestic violence who hold a temporary visa in Australia through financial support and legal assistance, including migration support
- \$10.7 million in additional funds for the Northern Territory under the Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence National Partnership, recognising the higher rates of violence and increased complexity of remote service delivery
- \$25 million to partner with states to apply innovative approaches to address family and domestic violence perpetrator behaviour
- \$8 million for the Support for Trafficked People Program, which provides assistance for people exploited by human trafficking, slavery and slavery-like practices
- \$5 million in additional funding for the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission to support consultation and engagement activities.

\$169.4 million will also be provided over 4 years from 2022-23 to work in conjunction with states and territories to support 500 additional frontline service and community workers supporting women and children experiencing family, domestic and sexual violence. Half of these jobs will be allocated to rural, regional and remote areas with additional workers to support the LGBTIQ+ community, women with disability, culturally and linguistically diverse women and children, and First Nations people.

Investment in the Social Services portfolio will be complemented with investment across the Commonwealth focussed on ending violence against women and children.

Key Facts

- The Government is investing in approaches to:
 - prevent problematic attitudes and beliefs before they lead to violence;
 - fund early intervention and responses so that violence doesn't escalate and perpetrators are held to account, and
 - support victim-survivors with their recovery and healing.
- \$169.4 million will support 500 new frontline workers to support women and children experiencing family, domestic and sexual violence.
- Funding supports the new National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032.

More information

For more information about this measure and other [Department of Social Services'](#) Budget measures, visit the Department of Social Services website (dss.gov.au).

For information about the 2022-23 October Budget, visit the [Australian Government budget](#) website (budget.gov.au).