

QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING THE HEARING

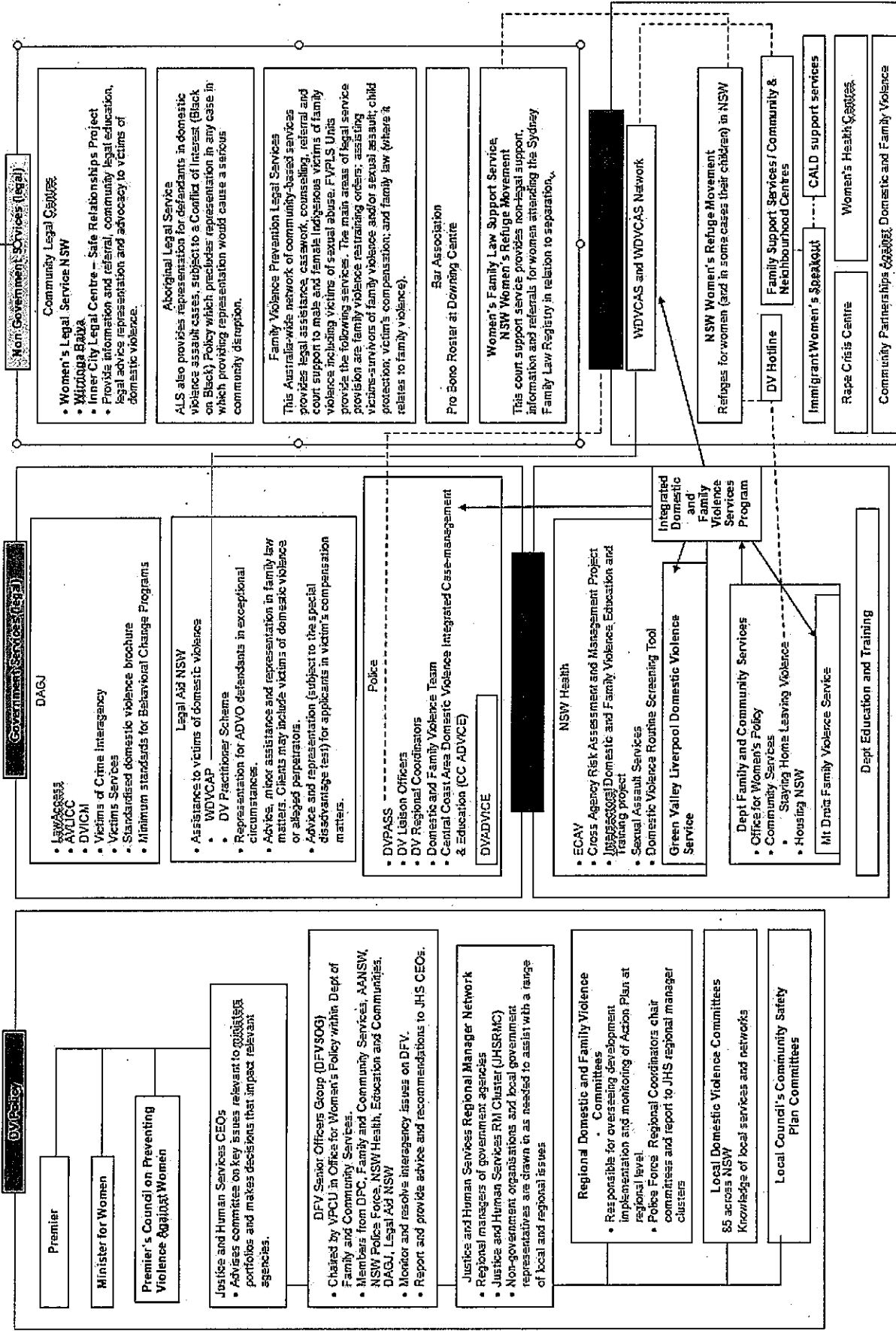
(page 11) The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones

Can you provide an overview of the different government agencies involved in prevention and responding to domestic violence?

The Office for Women's Policy is currently developing a work plan to conduct a more detailed service mapping exercise across the Government and non-government sector. This will provide a comprehensive picture of early intervention and prevention services in NSW and may be provided to the committee once completed.

An existing map showing the domestic violence sector in NSW more broadly can be found below.

Map of NSW domestic violence sector



(page 11) The Hon Catherine Cusack

...I refer to the letter sent to the Auditor-General. A number of the recommendations are to be implemented by 30 June and others by the end of the year. Can you provide an update on progress in relation to those recommendations and tell the committee whether you expect to achieve those timeframes? Given what you have said, I suggest that there might be some slippage in meeting those deadlines.

The NSW Government is working to address many of the recommendations made by the Auditor General through the development of the NSW Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Framework and will provide an update on progress in implementing the recommendations to the Auditor General by 30 June 2012 and at the end of the year.

The audit recommendations can be grouped into two key sets by proposed delivery dates: (i) 1-3 recommended for completion by June 2012, and (ii) 4-7 recommended for completion by December 2012. The following comments address each set of recommendation in turn.

(i) Recommendations proposed for completion by June 2012

Recommendation 1 to improve information sharing between organisations is supported by the NSW Government. The recommendation to implement privacy codes of practice, or promote legislative reform, for the appropriate exchange of information to keep victims safe and perpetrators accountable will be considered in development of the DFSV Framework. In addition, a Privacy Working Group on Domestic and Family Violence has been established to consider legislative change to support the appropriate exchange of information between agencies to provide increased safety and support for victims of domestic and family violence.

Recommendation 2 to ensure that local staff from police, prosecutors, child protection, probation, health, housing and appropriate non-government organisations meet regularly was also supported in principle.

The development of the NSW DFSV Framework includes work to improve both practice and service system responses. The issue of domestic and family violence meetings at a service delivery level will be addressed in finalising a risk assessment framework for NSW, and in the development of a cross-agency risk assessment tool to form part of the overarching DFSV Framework.

Recommendation 3 to ensure that organisations build on existing resources to develop and maintain an integrated online directory of specialist and mainstream services available to respond to domestic and family violence was supported in principle by the NSW Government.

The development of improved referral pathways and an information directory is being undertaken as part of the NSW DFSV Framework. One option being explored is to build this directory from existing information resources, which include the Domestic Violence Helpline, Human Services Net (HSNet), the Office for Women's Policy and the Domestic and Family Violence Clearinghouse.

(ii) Recommendations proposed for completion by December 2012

Recommendation 4 to report on the impact and the estimated cost of domestic and family violence on agencies operations and what agencies are doing, or funding other organisations to do, to respond to domestic and family violence and what this is achieving, is being considered as part of development of the DFSV Framework.

The Office for Women's Policy is currently scoping work to look at costing of services and service mapping across NSW. This may include strengthening information on the cost of violence and draw, for example, on the previous work undertaken by Access Economics and the National Council to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, the latter of which found that NSW spent approximately \$180 million on addressing domestic violence against women in 2007–08.

Recommendation 5 notes the need for a comprehensive cross-agency and cross-sectoral framework for dealing with domestic and family violence and is supported. The development of the DFSV Framework will link policy, practice and service responses across the government and non-government sector to provide an integrated service response to clients.

Recommendation 6 to ensure that organisations comply with the domestic and family violence framework, and attend inter-sectoral committees for the reduction of domestic and family violence, is supported in principle. A review of governance structures which support an integrated response to domestic, family and sexual violence is included in work to develop the DFSV Framework.

Recommendation 7 to publish strategies including output or outcome measures that can be used to monitor agency impact on domestic and family violence over the following five years (2013 to 2018) is supported in principle. The development of performance measures which support an integrated response to domestic, family and sexual violence, are included in work to develop the DFSV Framework.

Under-reporting and hidden-reporting are key issues which both significantly reduce the number of incidents and victims that are recorded and the Government will continue working to overcome these obstacles.

(page 14) The Hon Greg Donnelly

...Will you provide the committee with a copy of the scoping document being used by KPMG to define specific parameters of the work that it is doing with respect to the work associated with the domestic and family violence framework?

A copy of the scope of work to be undertaken by KPMG is attached.

(page 15) Chair

Have you done any modelling on costs (of the GPS bracelets)?

See response at question 12a.