

# Justice and Community Safety Directorate

## Domestic Violence Prevention Council

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The Domestic Violence Prevention Council (DVPC) is an independent statutory body established in 1997 under the [Domestic Violence Agencies Act 1986](#). The Council's statutory objective is to "reduce the incidence of domestic violence offences".

The Council is the peak body to offer advice to the ACT Attorney-General on issues relevant to its responsibilities on domestic violence.

In 1998 the Council established four strategic priorities directed at achieving its statutory purpose. These have been adopted and endorsed by successive Councils and are to:

- Encourage and facilitate systematic early intervention strategies aimed at the prevention of domestic violence.
- Generate a sense of community awareness of and involvement in the prevention of all forms of violence within intimate and family relationships.
- Encourage and facilitate a coordinated criminal justice and community response to domestic violence.
- Encourage and facilitate measures that reduce recidivism and the opportunities for re-offending.

The functions of the Council include the promotion of collaboration between government and community agencies, and advising the Attorney-General about matters concerning domestic violence in the Territory.

The Council consists of the ACT Domestic Violence Project Coordinator and 12 other members. In accordance with the terms of the Act, the members include at least six people as "community members" including representatives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and the culturally and linguistically diverse community. The Council also has a representative of the Domestic Violence Crisis Service and a representative of women with disabilities.

The remainder of the Council is made up of representatives from different arms of the ACT Government including Health, Chief Minister and Cabinet, Justice and Community Safety, and Community Services directorates. ACT Policing is also represented on the Council.

## Community Consultation

The ACT Government has asked the DVPC to prepare a [Whole of Government Statement on Family Violence](#).