



Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Advisory Council – Expressions of Interest

Background

The Australian Government is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) for a new Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Advisory Council (the Council).

The Council will provide independent advice on the effectiveness of the *National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032* (National Plan) initiatives and prevention measures, as well as advice on new and emerging evidence to improve impact. The Council will operate in an advisory capacity only and will report directly to the Minister for Social Services.

The role of the Council will be critical in progressing the work to develop the Second Action Plan throughout 2026.

Membership

Membership of the Council will consist of ten members selected through an EOI process managed by the Department of Social Services. Membership will be determined based on relevant areas of expertise outlined at Appendix A and detailed in the EOI form to ensure the Council, as a collective, has the relevant expertise to achieve its objectives.

The EOI will be advertised through relevant stakeholder channels, and invitations to apply for the EOI may be made directly by the Minister for Social Services.

Responsibilities

Reporting directly to the Minister for Social Services, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, the Council has the following responsibilities:

- Drive continuous advice on the effectiveness of measures under the National Plan.
- Deliver expert guidance to Government on new and emerging evidence, shaping National Plan objectives and activities.
- Advise on practical, evidence-based solutions to strengthen implementation of the National Plan.
- Develop connections and identify opportunities to align with other key strategies and frameworks.
- Engage proactively in strategic stakeholder meetings to influence and advance shared priorities.

Remuneration and Support

Members of the Council will be remunerated in accordance with the *Remuneration Tribunal (Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Part-time Public Office) Determination 2025*. The sitting fee rates are based on section 21 of the determination and apply as follows:

Sitting fee rates for Council members

Meeting and preparation duration	2 hours or less (40% of daily rate)	Between 2 – 3 hours (60% of daily rate)	3 hours plus (100% of daily rate)
Applicable fee	\$304	\$456	\$759

Sitting fees cover meeting attendance, preparation, and reasonable travel time. They do not include other allowances such as accommodation, flights, or taxis.

Membership will be reviewed every three years or when membership falls below 6 members, to ensure the Council remains independent and constitutes a diverse range of skills and experience.

The Department of Social Services is committed to creating a safe and inclusive space. Meetings will be facilitated in a trauma-informed and culturally safe manner, with support available as needed.

Confidentiality

Council members have an obligation not to use or disclose information provided in confidence, without consent of the Chair, the party who provided the information or as otherwise authorised or permitted by law.

Confidential information provided as part of the Council is provided to enable members to perform their responsibilities. This includes information relating to agenda items to be discussed. Members must take all reasonable steps to ensure this information remains confidential and is only disclosed where authorised or permitted by law.

Before commencing their role, all members are required to complete a Deed of Confidentiality and a Conflict of Interest Declaration.

Expression of Interest

Assessment process and selection criteria

Expertise and Experience

Applications will be assessed on the criteria listed below. All criteria must be addressed to be considered.

- Demonstrated expertise against more than one of the items in the skills matrix ([Appendix A](#)).
- Capability to provide strategic advice on whole-of-government policy design and integrated service responses
- Capability to provide advice on implementation and change management in complex services and systems
- Capability to interpret research, evaluation findings and data to inform policy and implementation advice
- Capability to provide advice on systemic reform opportunities for driving structural change
- Ability to engage with relevant communities, networks or industries.

Previous experience in a similar advisory body is beneficial but not mandatory.

Interviews may be conducted as part of the process if required. However, interviews will only occur where additional information is needed to support the selection process.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be an Australian Citizen.
- Undergo identification and pre-employment screening (this may include further probity and integrity checks on shortlisted candidates; for example, legal history and financial history checks).
- Provide evidence of a current National Police Check.
- Ability to obtain a valid Working With Children Check.
- Ability to obtain and maintain a baseline security clearance.

Transparency

The integrity of the EOI process will be managed through a selection process supported by governance and guiding documentation such as the Terms of Reference.

We embrace the strength of diversity — through our people and the perspectives they bring. We are committed to inclusive recruitment practices and encourage applications from people with disability or neurodivergence, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and individuals from all backgrounds. Reasonable adjustments can be provided throughout the recruitment process

Selection Panel Composition

A selection panel will support the Minister for Social Services for the assessment of applicants through the EOI process.

The panel will be composed of the following officials from the Department of Social Services and the Office for Women:

- Deputy Secretary, Delivery and Data - Department of Social Services
- Group Manager, Family Safety - Department of Social Services
- Executive Director, Office for Women - Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet; and/or
- First Assistant Secretary, Office for Women - Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Appendix A – Skills Matrix

Skills and areas of expertise and/or lived experience	
Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence (FDSV) Capability and Experience	Experience or expertise in: • prevention, early intervention, crisis response, or recovery work • supporting victim-survivors (adults, children or young people) • working on sexual violence or child sexual abuse • using trauma-informed or safety-focused approaches • lived experience that informs your understanding of DFSV
Systems Design, Integration and Service Improvement	Experience or expertise in: • improving coordination across services • designing or strengthening programs or service models • reducing duplication or closing service gaps • working with universal systems (like health, housing, justice, education or financial services) to better support people experiencing DFSV • embedding safety, accessibility, trauma-informed or culturally safe practice

Skills and areas of expertise and/or lived experience	
Universal and Related Service Systems Experience	Experience or expertise in: • working in health, education, housing, disability, justice, financial services, child protection or community services • improving those systems' capability to recognise and respond to DFSV • making services safer, more inclusive or easier to navigate
First Nations Self-Determination and Cultural Safety	Experience or expertise in: • partnering with/or working in First Nations communities or organisations • embedding self-determination in governance, programs or service design • lived experience as a First Nations person • using culturally safe and community-led approaches
Applying Intersectional and Inclusive Approaches	Experience or expertise in: • working with diverse or marginalised communities • designing policies or systems that address structural barriers • improving accessibility, safety or inclusion • applying intersectional analysis to decision-making
Research, Data and Evaluation	Experience or expertise in: • Ability to interpret and use research, data, and evaluations relating to DFSV prevalence, risk factors, outcomes and system performance to effectively inform policy and implementation advice.

Expressions of Interest Form

Please complete the form below and email your expression of interest to

DFSVAdvisoryCouncil@dss.gov.au by 31 March 2026, 5:00 PM. We look forward to hearing from you.

Full Name (required)	
Pronouns	
Email address (required)	
State/Territory in which you are based (required)	
Contact Number (required)	
References Reference 1: [Name, Position, Contact Information] Reference 2: [Name, Position, Contact Information]	
Attachments Please attach your current resume as part of your application	
Suitability criteria (maximum 750 words) Please write a statement on your suitability for the Advisory Council. Your response should provide clear examples with reference to the selection criteria	
Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in analysis of EOI submissions Unless you elect to opt out when providing your submission for the EOI, the Department intends to use AI to assist with reviewing your submission. You can opt out by selecting the below.	☐ No, I do not want AI to be used to analyse my submission.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: The applicant declares that they do not have any actual, potential or perceived Conflict of Interest, other than those set out below and how they propose to mitigate them: If at any time the applicant forms an actual, potential or perceived Conflict of Interest, then the applicant will: (a) disclose that conflict of interest to the Department; and (b) take action necessary to avoid the conflict as directed by the Department.	
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Declaration

I,, declare that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I declare that the above details of my conflict of interest disclosure on my private interests are correct to the best of my knowledge. I am aware of my responsibilities to take reasonable steps to avoid any real or apparent conflict of interest in connection with my expression of interest to the Advisory Council and to advise the Department of any relevant changes in my personal circumstances.

Signature:	
Date:	

Timeline

High level process timeline

Milestone	Details
EOI opens	10 March 2026
EOI closes	31 March 2026
Assessment period	Will occur during April 2026, with notification of outcome by the beginning of May 2026

Need support or have questions?

We're here to help. If you have any questions about the Council or the Expression of Interest process, please reach out to DFSVAdvisoryCouncil@dss.gov.au.

If you need support to complete or submit your application, please contact us at DFSVAdvisoryCouncil@dss.gov.au to discuss options.

Any feedback on the Expression of Interest process can be directed to DFSVAdvisoryCouncil@dss.gov.au.