

Interim Report: Feedback

Following the Sustainable Health Review Interim Report feedback was sought. Open feedback provided by the organisation or individual is detailed below. Note – this feedback was received on a previous template.

Your Personal Details	
1. Title	Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Ms <input type="checkbox"/> Dr <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>
2. First Name(s)	
3. Surname	
4. Contact Details	
5. Organisation	Preventing Violence Against Women
6. Location	<input type="checkbox"/> Metropolitan <input type="checkbox"/> Regional WA <input type="checkbox"/> Outside WA
7. Are you providing a response on behalf of your group/organisation or as an individual? (Required)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group/organisation <input type="checkbox"/> Individual <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify _____
Q8. Do you consent to your feedback being published, in summaries or in the Final Report? (Required)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I consent to my feedback being published <input type="checkbox"/> I consent to my feedback being published anonymously <input type="checkbox"/> I do not consent to my feedback being published	

Sustainable Health Review

Public Submissions

The WA State Government's Sustainable Health Review aims to prioritise the delivery of high quality, patient-centred sustainable healthcare across WA into the future.

Western Australians continue to enjoy excellent health outcomes and quality health services. However the system is under increasing pressure from an ageing population, chronic disease and health inequity, and the health budget continues to rise. We need to focus on value and innovation to further improve health outcomes; ensure safe and high quality services; improve patient experience; and drive clinical and financial performance.

The Government has appointed a highly experienced expert Panel including consumer, employee and clinical leaders to undertake the Review and to consult widely about the directions the WA health system needs to take. Public submissions are the first step in ensuring all Western Australians, including our patients, our community, our workforce and our partners, can contribute to the Sustainable Health Review and help us to shape the future of our health system.

The Panel is calling for public submissions in relation to the Sustainable Health Review Terms of Reference. We encourage you to contribute to the future vision for health in Western Australia.

All members of the community – individuals and organisations, are encouraged to provide a submission.

Guidance for public submissions is found in the attached Cover Sheet. Please complete this public submissions cover sheet and return completed with any attachments to the Sustainable Health Review Secretariat via:

Public submissions close **5.00PM (WST) 2 October 2017** and can be submitted via:

Email: SHR@health.wa.gov.au

Fax: (08) 9222 4046

Mail: Sustainable Health Review Secretariat
189 Royal Street
EAST PERTH, WA 6004

Further information about the Sustainable Health Review is available at health.wa.gov.au/sustainablehealthreview or via SHR@health.wa.gov.au

Submissions Response Field

Please type your response into the field below. Alternatively you may provide your submissions as a separate attachment (Suggested Maximum 5 pages).

PVAW – Preventing Violence Against Women, was established on the back of three annual awareness/fundraising events for White Ribbon Australia. In one measure of our success, funds raised, we are the highest individual fundraisers for White Ribbon in Australia.

However, we felt the need for a local return on our supporter’s donations and practical action; the next step after awareness.

WA has the second highest rate of incidents per capita, topped only by the Northern Territory, and almost 1.5 times that of third placed New South Wales.

In 2014, the number of victims of family and domestic violence-related² assault⁴ offences as recorded by police:

	Victims	Victims per 100,000 persons
Northern Territory	4,287	1,749
Western Australia	14,603	568
New South Wales	28,780	383
South Australia	5,691	338
Australian Capital Territory	615	159

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics - 4510.0 - Recorded Crime - Victims, Australia, 2014

At the time we evolved from a small committee to a registered charity, with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status, the two organisations that state a “National” focus on the issue, had no formal footprint in WA. White Ribbon - based in Sydney, Our Watch - in Melbourne.

Since PVAW’s inception, Our Watch is now aligned with the WA state government and in March 2017, WA appointed the first Minister for the Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence, Hon. Simone McGurk.

However, the complexities of the issue and the traditional focus on responses and actions after an experience of violence – absolutely critical of course, mean that unless we also pay attention to the prevention aspect, the health, social and economic cost is going to continue to escalate.

The recent Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report¹ noted ‘*Domestic violence is the greatest health risk factor for women aged 25-44. It is a greater health risk than smoking, alcohol or physical inactivity!*’

In Western Australia, 29.4% of women are in this age range². **For almost 30% of women in WA, Domestic Violence is their greatest health risk!**

So, given these facts and also that WA Health’s number one healthcare strategic priority is prevention ‘*Our strategic priorities include: (1) prevention and community care services*’³, **why is there not specific focus on, and action of, this issue?**

We do not need to fund and undertake research, write reports, and develop programs and content. There is ample quality evidence based content and programs in place nationally and globally, providing a head start from which we can learn and adopt.

One example, whilst researching effective programs and relevant engaging content around preventing violence against women, it appears that Victoria leads the way. The Victorian Health promotion organisation, VicHealth's work seemed quite prominent, both individually and with a number of partnerships. Their focus and results are quite different to that of WA's Healthway, the only other health promotion organisation in Australia.

Healthway's focus:

- *to fund activities related to the promotion of good health in general with particular emphasis on young people; and*
- *to support sporting and arts activities which encourage healthy lifestyles and advance health promotion programmes; and*
- *to provide grants to organisations engaged in health promotion programmes; and*
- *to fund research relevant to health promotion; and*
- *to evaluate and report on the effectiveness of the performance of the Foundation in achieving health promotion activities.*

VS

Victoria's VicHealth's work:

- *Healthy eating*
- *Alcohol harm prevention*
- *Preventing violence against women*
- *Research*
- *Physical activity*
- *Mental wellbeing*
- *Arts and social connection*
- *Innovation*
- *Tobacco prevention*
- *Health equity*
- *Reducing race discrimination*

Referring again to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report¹ - mainly because it is the most recently published and therefore has the most up to date statistics, not because it states anything fundamentally different from countless previous reports, studies or programs - in which they highlight the 'need to improve the integration of service responses for victims, **to invest in prevention** and early intervention, and to hold perpetrators more accountable'.

PVAW implore WA Health to invest in Prevention of the greatest health risk to almost 30% of the women in Western Australia.

- 1 - Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018. Family, domestic and sexual violence in Australia 2018. Cat. no. FDV 2. Canberra: AIHW.
- 2 – Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 Census
- 3 - WA Health Strategic Intent 2015 – 2020