

EDUCATION, ARTS AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

**Report No. 5, 58th Parliament – Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation
Amendment Bill 2025**

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

The Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 (the Bill) was introduced into the Legislative Assembly on 30 April 2025 by the Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence. The Bill was referred to the Education, Arts and Communities Committee (the Committee) for detailed consideration. The Committee tabled *Report No. 5, 58th Parliament - Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025* on 20 June 2025.

The Bill proposes amendments to the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* (DFVP Act) to improve police efficiency when responding to domestic and family violence (DFV), deliver DFV related election commitments, and make other technical amendments to DFV legislation.

Committee recommendation 1:

The committee recommends that the Bill be passed.

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 1 is noted.

The Queensland Government thanks the Committee for its consideration of the Bill and notes the Committee's recommendation that the Bill be passed.

Committee recommendation 2:

The committee recommends the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety work closely with the Queensland Police Service to develop guidelines to assist police officers in administering police protection directions with respect to the considerations police will have to consider under new section 100B(2).

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 2 is supported in principle.

New section 100B(2) provides guidance on what a police officer must consider when deciding whether to issue a police protection direction (PPD). It also references new section 100E, which outlines some circumstances where a PPD may not be appropriate and lists additional matters a police officer must consider when deciding whether to issue a PPD. These considerations are intended to provide guidance to officers.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) will lead policing implementation activities for PPDs. The Domestic and Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command will support the development of materials to enable police to effectively apply the legislation, including policy and practice guidelines.

Training for frontline officers in relation to the Bill will commence prior to 1 January 2026. Frontline police will be able to issue PPDs after completing relevant training.

QPS will consult with the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety (DFSDSCS) during the development of updates to the QPS Operational Procedures Manual that will provide guidance to police officers investigating DFV and the matters an officer must consider when deciding whether or not to issue a PPD.

Committee recommendation 3:

The committee recommends that the Minister considers further amendment to the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012 or to the Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008 to expand the definition of a 'protection order' to include the police protection directions proposed by the Bill.

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 3 is supported.

The Queensland Government will move amendments to the *Family Responsibilities Commission Act 2008* (FRC Act) which will allow information about the issue of relevant PPDs to be provided to the Family Responsibilities Commission (FRC).

The Government notes feedback from the FRC to the Committee expressing concern that the Bill does not amend the FRC Act to allow notification of PPDs. As the FRC is currently notified when protection orders are made in FRC communities, the use of PPDs where a protection order may have otherwise been made could reduce the FRC's visibility of DFV, and opportunities for early intervention.

Receiving notices of relevant PPDs will enable the FRC to facilitate culturally appropriate early intervention to victim-survivors and persons using violence.

Committee recommendation 4:

The committee encourages the Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety to consider, as part of the statutory review proposed in the Bill, whether the proposed safeguards against misidentification have been effective.

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 4 is supported.

The Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence must ensure the PPD provisions are reviewed after two years. Amongst other matters, the review must consider whether PPDs have been effective in improving the safety, protection and wellbeing of people who fear or experience domestic violence. This will necessarily include consideration of whether safeguards against misidentification have been effective.

Committee recommendation 5:

The committee supports a considered implementation of the electronic monitoring pilot program in Queensland, as proposed by the Bill, so that a fulsome and meaningful evaluation of the trial may be conducted at the end of the 2-year pilot period.

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 5 is supported.

The Queensland Government notes the Committee's support for considered implementation of the DFV electronic monitoring pilot.

DFSDSCS is leading implementation of the electronic monitoring pilot for high-risk DFV offenders. Implementation will support meaningful data collection to thoroughly monitor and evaluate the pilot's effectiveness. An evaluation of the first 150 electronic monitoring devices will be undertaken before the remaining 350 devices are made available. Further monitoring and evaluation will continue throughout the duration of the pilot.

Committee recommendation 6:

The committee recommends that, at the end of the electronic monitoring pilot period and the expiry of the 2 year trial, the Minister consider setting out the details of any extending or permanent scheme in the primary legislation.

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 6 is supported.

The provisions in the Bill that enable the electronic monitoring pilot will automatically expire after two years. Subject to the effectiveness of the pilot, Government may choose to expand, extend or permanently embed the pilot in the legislation. This will include consideration of whether details of the pilot should be set out in more detail in the primary legislation.

Committee recommendation 7:

The committee recommends:

- *that any training materials that relate to DFV and are developed by the Queensland Police Service, including VREC training and the proposed two-day mandatory course, be co-designed in tandem with domestic and family violence specialist providers.*
- *that these materials be regularly reviewed to ensure contemporary evidence-based and trauma informed training.*
- *that police officers are required to undertake regular refresher training*

Queensland Government Response:

Recommendation 7 is supported in principle.

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QPS is committed to addressing DFV through comprehensive, evidence-based, and trauma-informed training programs.

QPS utilises a range of methods to deliver victim-centric and trauma-informed DFV training to frontline police. This training has been developed with support and input from external sector subject matter experts, as well as recorded experiences from DFV victim-survivors to reinforce and highlight the importance of a victim-centric, trauma informed approach. The external sector input into QPS training ensures the training provided to police officers is consistent with sector standards and community expectations.

Training materials are regularly reviewed to ensure consistency with legislative amendments and operation requirements.

All recruits receive foundational DFV training as part of their initial police academy curriculum. Periodic refresher courses are also provided as a part of ongoing mandatory training.

By maintaining partnerships with DFV specialist providers, implementing regular review processes, and standardising refresher training, the QPS can align with Recommendation 7 while maintaining operational effectiveness.

Training for frontline officers in relation to the Bill will commence prior to 1 January 2026. Frontline police will be able to issue PPDs after completing relevant training.

Queensland Legislative Assembly	
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