

National Research

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is included in the Ministerial Work Programme on Family Violence (FV) and Sexual Violence (SV)?

Further information on the Ministerial Group's Family Violence and Sexual Violence (MGFVSV) Work Programme can be found on the [Ministry of Justice](#), [Ministry of Social Development](#) or the [NZ Police](#) websites.

The MGFVSV Work Programme seeks to achieve the following overarching outcomes:

- Less family violence and sexual violence in New Zealand
- Harm to victims is minimised
- More perpetrators end or reduce their use of violence and sexual violence and are held accountable for their behaviour
- More people have respectful and non-violent relationships.

The work-streams that make up the overarching MGFVSV Work Programme include:

- Workforce Development (led by MSD)
- Risk assessment and management framework (led by MoJ)
- Perpetrator Interventions (led by Corrections)
- Integrated Safety Response (ISR) pilot (led by Police)
- Sexual Violence and Harmful Sexual Behaviours Service Development (led by MSD)
- Primary Prevention Framework (led by MSD and ACC)
- Investment Case (led by MOJ)
- Victim Services (led by MSD)
- Sexual Violence Policy and Governance (led by MSD)
- Youth Sexual Violence Strategy and Action Plan (led by ACC and MOH)
- Research and Evaluation (led by Superu)

2. What is the purpose of the Perpetrator Interventions Work-stream?

The Perpetrator Interventions Work-stream will look at ways to ensure that:

- perpetrators gain access to a range of services or programmes that will target their unique risks and needs, regardless of how they are referred; and
- all services or programmes are effective and delivered by a skilled and well-supported workforce.

The Perpetrator Interventions Work-stream will consider all family violence or sexual violence adult perpetrators from both in and outside the justice system. For example, those directed by the courts, offenders being managed by Corrections, or perpetrators who have self-referred for help.

**BUDGET SENSITIVE
NOT GOVERNMENT POLICY**

This work-stream will ensure that interventions are proportionate to the perpetrator's identified level of risk, target needs that will have the biggest impact on behaviour change and are delivered in a way that is best suited to the individual.

The Perpetrator Interventions work-stream will also inform and make recommendations (where appropriate) to the MGFVSV on:

- a. the services currently available to FV perpetrators and what the optimum mix of services should include based on contemporary 'what works' research and evaluations
- b. coordinating Government agencies when it comes to commissioning and/or delivering perpetrator services (including any 'wrap around' service provision)
- c. establishing cross-Government reporting and evaluation requirements for agencies delivering services to perpetrators of FV
- d. how best to respond to gaps in capability and/or capacity within the sector.

3. Why is Corrections leading the Perpetrator Interventions work-stream?

Corrections was chosen by the Ministerial Group to lead the Perpetrator Interventions work-stream, and will set the direction for the Perpetrator Interventions work plan for 2016-18, in collaboration with partner agencies including the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Development, Police and Te Puni Kokiri.

4. What's out of scope in the process?

The Harmful Sexual Behaviours sub-work-stream is out of scope because the relevant stakeholders for that work will be engaged separately. We are also focused on adult perpetrators, at least initially, and not on young people or child perpetrators. Victim services are also out of scope, although we acknowledge the interdependency with perpetrator service delivery.

5. Why do you want to speak to FV providers?

It's essential that we understand 'current state' and obtain your views on what you believe is working well and not so well before we start thinking about what might need to change.

By talking to you we are hoping to be better informed on:

- what FV interventions your agency delivers and how
- what theoretical models your FV interventions are based on
- how your agency supports and respond to the cultural needs of perpetrators
- whether you believe there are FV service gaps in your community, and/or what barriers hinder your agency's ability to deliver more or different FV interventions
- what support or changes your agency would like to see that the Government can directly influence; bearing in mind there may not be any *additional* financial support available.

6. Who is leading the national research?

The research will be led by Prof Devon Polaschek a psychologist from Victoria University of Wellington and two research assistants (one of whom will be a Māori clinician). Using Victoria University for the research introduces a layer of independence to the engagement and reporting process for you and participating Government agencies.

7. Do I have to participate?

Participating in the research is voluntary. It won't affect your agency, contractually or otherwise if you decide not to participate.

The research exercise is, and will remain, completely separate from any current procurement processes you may be engaged in with any Government funder.

8. Who has been asked to participate?

Like you, all providers delivering FV programmes currently contracted by Government funders have been invited to participate, along with other key stakeholders, such as membership or representative groups.

We are hoping to get input from a range of providers including for example those who provide services in urban or rural areas, those who work with different minority groups, women, and a mixture of large and small agencies so we can gain an understanding of the different pressure points and environmental influences.

Providers working with victims of FV (including children) will also be invited to engage and share their views on perpetrator services from the victim's perspective.

9. Who do you want to speak to in my organisation and how much time will it take?

We're using three approaches to engage with all interested providers/stakeholders.

- An online survey, which will take the least amount of provider time, and enable providers to participate anonymously if they wish. Agencies can submit multiple survey responses if the responses are made by different individuals within the agency.
- Focus groups for agency managers/a representative facilitator and/or clinical leads. The focus groups are expected to run for two to three hours. The locations are likely to include Wellington, Rotorua, Auckland, Hamilton, Christchurch and Dunedin
- A small number (approximately six) of full day 1:1 site visits with specific providers (including facilitators and any clinical leads to enable more in-depth conversation).

10. Will I be reimbursed for any costs incurred if I/my team participates?

Unfortunately there is no funding available to reimburse costs/loss of earnings, which is why there are different ways to engage in the process. If you are concerned about the costs associated with engaging then you may need to prioritise completing the online survey.

11. How will the information I provide be used?

The Victoria University research team will be gathering, analysing and reporting back to the Government agencies directly involved in the Perpetrator Interventions work-stream. Summaries of the general findings/themes will be shared wider with Ministers and Government Deputy Chief Executives to enable them to make decisions on future interventions.

12. When will the research be completed?

Stakeholder engagement for the Perpetrator workstream must to be completed by early September 2016 to give the researchers enough time to collate, analyse and summarise the findings. The Perpetrator work-stream is required to report back its findings to Ministers in November 2016.

13. What does the future hold for perpetrator intervention/services?

At this stage the agencies involved in the Perpetrator workstream are open-minded about what the future state could look like. Involvement in the research is a good opportunity for providers to help inform that future.

Changes are inevitable and must be made to help stop or prevent family violence, and ultimately keep victims, whānau and our communities safer. New Zealand needs an integrated and effective system that is joined up, aligned, and makes a difference.

14. My agency is currently negotiating a contract with one of the agencies involved in the Perpetrator workstream – how will my engagement in the current process affect that?

Government agencies with current procurement processes underway will apply the good practice standards found in the Rules of Sourcing¹ to ensure your involvement in the research does not affect any contract negotiations you may be undertaking with any Government agency.

15. How will my organisation benefit from engaging with the Perpetrator work-stream research?

By getting involved you will be more informed of the MGFVSV's overall work programme and will have the opportunity to help mould the future response to FV perpetrators and help keep victims and communities safer.

¹ <http://www.business.govt.nz/procurement/pdf-library/agencies/rules-of-sourcing/procurement-government-rules-of-sourcing-v3.pdf>