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## Page 2: Your Information

**Q1** Party name

Australian Greens

**Q2** Name and position of party representative completing the survey:

Senator Larissa Waters

**Q3** Contact email of party representative

senator.waters@aph.gov.au

**Q4** Contact number of party representative

(07) 3367 0566

## Page 3: Funding for family violence services

**Q5** Inadequate and unpredictable funding for family and domestic violence services limits the capacity of organisations to respond to the urgent and ongoing needs of people experiencing family violence. Would your party support the implementation of guaranteed, long-term funding and a ten year plan for workforce capability and development framework for services that work to prevent gender-based violence, support women and children, and intervene with perpetrators?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

We've committed \$5.3 billion over ten years for secure funding to end Australia's family and domestic violence crisis.

**Q6** Do you commit to ensuring funding for domestic and family violence related services is allocated to service providers with specialist expertise in the gendered nature and dynamics of domestic and family violence and its impact on victim survivors?

**Yes**

**Q7** Inadequate and unpredictable funding for family and domestic violence services limits the capacity of specialist agencies to respond to the urgent and ongoing needs of those affected. How much extra funding will your Party provide to specialist agencies to meet unmet demand?

At \$5.3 billion over ten years, the Greens' funding commitment to family and domestic violence exceeds the \$328 million that the Coalition has committed several times over. Specialist agencies will benefit from this funding, to be allocated on the basis of prioritising groups most at risk of family and domestic violence, especially women, LGBTIQ+ people, migrants and people with a disability.

**Q8** Family Violence Prevention Legal Services provide specialist and culturally safe services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, but are currently limited to just 14 locations. These services have not received the standard CPI level increase on their direct funding since 2013, the equivalent of a \$9 million real loss of funding. Would you reinstate this funding?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

The Greens will provide \$118 million to Family Violence Prevention Legal Services over the forward estimates. We will also reinstate Family Violence Prevention Legal Services as a standalone program with a direct allocation of funding, long-term secure funding agreements and CPI increases for all members.

**Q9** Would your Party commit to providing long term increased funding to properly resource the capacity of the current Family Violence Prevention Legal Services, and to increase geographic coverage of FVPLS including to urban, rural and remote areas - estimated at an additional \$28 million annually?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

The Greens' Justice Plan includes an extra \$122.5m over four years in federal funding, \$85.7m in state funding for FVPLS, in a 60:40 split, as per the Productivity Commission's recommendation in its 2014 Access to Justice report.

**Q10** Will your party commit to long-term, ongoing funding for the National FVPLS Forum?

**Yes**

**Q11** Community Legal Centres provide vital free legal advice to hundreds of thousands of people across Australia every year, including people experiencing family violence. Community legal centres continue to face funding uncertainty and are insufficiently funded to meet rising demand for services. In 2014 the Productivity Commission recommended that an immediate injection of at least \$120 million per year of additional federal funding was required by the legal assistance sector to meet demand. This would mean at least \$14.4 million additional federal government funding per year for Community Legal Centres alone. Will your party commit to at least \$14.4 million additional core funding per year for community legal centres?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

The Greens' Justice Plan has adopted the Productivity Commission's recommendation for a 60:40 split between the Commonwealth and states/territories. However, in 2018, after years of budget cuts and inaction by the Government, the Law Council of Australia's Justice Project found the funding gap was now around \$390 million per year. Our Justice plan fills this gap with \$954 million in extra federal funding over four years for essential legal assistance services, which would be matched with an extra \$635 million from states/territories, bringing the total investment to over \$1587 million in total extra funding over four years. Using the Productivity Commission's recommendation for a 60:40 split, that's \$397 million a year of Commonwealth, state and territory funding for legal assistance services, which meets the funding recommendations of the Law Council of Australia's Justice Project. This includes \$408 million of federal funding over four years for Community Legal Centres, and \$6.8 million for national, state and territory Community Legal Centre peak bodies (which, with the Productivity Commission's 60:40 split, would also include a further \$276.5 million in state/territory funding).

**Q12** A number of community legal centres have specialist family violence units and health justice partnerships. A recent evaluation of these units and partnerships highlighted the significant difference they make in the lives of women experiencing family violence. Would your Party support and provide funding for national roll-out of these units and partnerships?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

The Greens' Justice Plan includes an extra \$40.4 million in federal funding to extend and nationally roll out specialist units and health justice partnerships to keep people experiencing family violence safe.

**Q13** Would your Party provide additional federal funding to expand perpetrator responses and interventions, including men's behaviour change programs, case management, fathering programs and other specialist interventions, estimated by No To Violence to require an additional \$88.2 million of federal funding annually?

**Yes**

**Q14** Our Watch is the National Foundation for the Prevention of Violence Against Women and their Children. It oversees and leads the implementation of the national strategy to prevent violence against women. Does your Party support the provision of long term, core funding of Our Watch of \$5 million annually?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

Part of our \$5.3 billion funding commitment is for increasing and providing long-term secure funding support for Our Watch and Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety, as they are the national primary prevention and cultural change experts.

**Q15** Does your party commit to develop a new National Plan to Prevent Violence Against Women and their Children after 2022 based on consultation with the specialist sexual, domestic and family violence sector and incorporating learnings from the evaluation of the current plan?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

The Greens would expand the Fourth National Action Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children before 2022, commensurate with our much greater funding commitment. The plan would be augmented in close consultation with the specialist sexual, domestic and family violence sector.

**Q16** Would your Party support investment to build the capacity of practitioners in community groups, government, organisations and key sectors to ensure they have expertise in the prevention of violence, and are able to expand the reach of current primary prevention activities?

**Yes**

**Q17** Would your Party commit to reviewing the domestic and family violence system to identify the funding gaps that are within the Commonwealth's area of responsibility?

**Yes**

**Q18** Does your Party commit to develop a national strategy for ensuring all people affected by domestic and family violence can access emergency, transitional, long-term and affordable housing, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, culturally and linguistically diverse and LGBTIQ people and people with a disability?

**Yes,**

Please provide details of your policy::

In 2018, around 300,000 people sought assistance for homelessness. Lack of availability meant that 236 people seeking services had to be turned away every day in 2019. Under the Greens' plan, the need for crisis services will be reduced as greater investment in public and community housing will provide more people with a roof over their heads, and greater rights for renters will ensure more people have a secure, affordable home. That's the 'Housing First' approach used in Finland where homelessness has fallen by 35% and the need for crisis services has been dramatically reduced since 2010. But crisis housing is an important safety net for those in need and these services must be available and accessible to everyone who needs them, when they need them. We will ensure nobody is without a bed and a roof over their head, even for one night. The Greens will:

- Set aside \$500 million per year to fund transitional housing and crisis services.
- Guarantee this funding for ten years to give service providers certainty.

**Q19** How much additional funding would your Party commit to ensuring children and young people who are experiencing, or at risk of, domestic and family violence receive early and ongoing specialist support that is tailored to their unique and complex needs?

At \$5.3 billion over ten years, the Greens' funding commitment to family and domestic violence exceeds the \$328 million that the Coalition has committed several times over. Specialist agencies will benefit from this funding, to be allocated on the basis of prioritising groups most at risk of family and domestic violence, including children and young people.

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#### Page 4: ParentsNext

**Q20** Will your Party abandon the current ParentsNext program?

**Yes,**

please outline the details of your policy:

The Greens are committed to abolishing the current ParentsNext program, which is a coercive and controlling program that unfairly targets single mothers. We will re-invest money from ParentsNext into programs that are genuine pre-employment programs and are voluntary.

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**Q21** Will your Party end the application of compliance frameworks that threaten parenting payments based on the completion of activities?

**Yes,**

Please outline the details of your policy::

The Greens are strongly opposed to the application of mutual obligations and the targeted compliance framework to income support payments. The evidence shows that mutual obligations and welfare conditionality don't work in assisting people to find paid work. We will continue to fight for the removal of mutual obligations from our social security system.

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**Q22** Will your Party make the receipt of parenting payments unconditional for parents with children under six years (i.e. not impose activity requirements as a pre-condition to receiving the parenting payment)?

**Yes,**

Please outline the details of your policy::

The Greens will remove the activity requirements currently attached to Parenting Payment Single. We will also reverse the Welfare to Work changes that saw single parents moved off parenting payment onto Newstart when their youngest child turned 8.

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**Q23** Will your Party commit to work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to co-create voluntary programs that support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families to achieve their goals and promote self-determination?

**No policy,**

Please outline the details of your policy::

The Greens are strongly committed to working in partnership with First Nations organisations and communities to ensure First Nations families are properly supported to achieve their goals. We believe that First Nations peoples should have control over the development, design and implementation of public policies, programs and services that affect them. First Nations children should be safely connected to their families, communities and cultures. We support a system that invests in prevention and early intervention, including funding for First Nations family support workers. As part of our plan, we are providing \$50 million over four years for First Nations out of home care projects and investing in trauma and healing services for affected families and communities.

## Page 5: Campus sexual violence

**Q24** Sexual violence is the most significant safety issue on university campuses right now. Too many universities and residences are still failing to appropriately respond to, and prevent, sexual violence. Will your party commit to establish an independent and expert-led Taskforce to track, assess and publicly report on university and residences' measures to prevent and improve responses to sexual violence?

**Yes,**

Please outline the details of your policy::

Yes, the Greens commit to establishing an independent taskforce in consultation with experts and women's groups to track, assess and publicly report on the prevalence of sexual violence and university and residences' measures to prevent and improve responses to sexual violence. Further, we will task the Sex Discrimination Commissioner with considering the success of France's cat-calling laws which ban street harassment, and whether a national approach could be taken in Australia, including on university campuses.

## Page 6: Workplace sexual harassment

**Q25** What are your party's policies to ensure dedicated prevention efforts to address the underlying gendered drivers of sexual harassment?

Our equality for women initiative commits to rolling out respectful relationships education, as well as a nationally consistent sexual education curriculum, across the country: <https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/POLICY%20INITIATIVE-Equality%20for%20women.pdf>

**Q26** Will you invest in integrated strategies for primary prevention, aligned with the national framework, Change the Story – both within workplaces and across the broader community, and build capacity of employers to prevent sexual harassment?

**Yes**

**Q27** What are your party's policies on providing stronger and clearer legal duties on employers to prevent sexual harassment at work, and to ensure regulators are more effectively able to tackle sexual harassment?

The Greens would task the Sex Discrimination Commissioner with providing advice on increasing access to the Anti-Discrimination Tribunal for state-based employees.

**Q28** Will you amend work health and safety regulations and Codes of Practice to create an enforceable framework to prevent and address sexual harassment? **Yes**

**Q29** Will you ensure Commonwealth work health and safety agencies are resourced and trained to effectively address sexual harassment? **Yes**

**Q30** Will you update Commonwealth anti-discrimination laws to impose an enforceable positive duty on employers to prevent sexual harassment, supplemented by guidelines for compliance? **Yes,**  
Please provide details on your policy::  
The Greens would support provisions to strengthen our anti-discrimination laws. If employers fail to act to institute reasonable measures to eliminate discrimination and sexual harassment, employees should be able to hold them to account.

**Q31** Will you grant the Commonwealth human rights commission greater investigation powers, the power to enter into enforceable undertakings, and the power to issue compliance notices, to more effectively address sexual harassment? **Yes**

**Q32** What are your party's policies to ensure access to fair, effective and efficient complaints processes?

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/POLICY%20INITIATIVE-Equality%20for%20women.pdf> and  
<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2018-06/AusGreensComplaintsProcess.pdf>

**Q33** Will you amend the Fair Work Act to protect workers from sexual harassment with a stand-alone civil remedy provision to enable the Fair Work Commission to receive complaints and the Fair Work Ombudsman to tackle sexual harassment? **Yes,**  
Please provide details on your policy::  
The Greens would support changes to the Fair Work Act to enable the Fair Work Commission and the Ombudsman to tackle sexual harassment.

**Q34** Will you amend Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation to extend the time limit for bringing a complaint to 6 years? **Yes**

**Q35** Will you resource the Commonwealth human rights commission to reduce the current wait times for conciliation? **Yes**

**Q36** What are your parties' policies to ensure access to appropriate advocacy and support for workers who experience sexual harassment, including access to information, counselling and legal services?

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/POLICY%20INITIATIVE-Equality%20for%20women.pdf> and  
<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2018-06/AusGreensComplaintsProcess.pdf>

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**Q37** Will you fund specialist support services to assist people who have experienced sexual harassment? **Yes**

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**Q38** What are your party's policies to ensure accessible reporting tools for workplace sexual harassment?

<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2019-03/POLICY%20INITIATIVE-Equality%20for%20women.pdf> and  
<https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2018-06/AusGreensComplaintsProcess.pdf>

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**Q39** Will you pilot an online reporting tool that assists people to report and address problem behaviour and seek support, and identify trends to assist with prevention and enforcement efforts? **Yes**

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