



Parliament of Australia
The Senate

Senator Larissa Waters

Australian Greens Senator for Queensland



Helen L'Orange AM
Convenor, WEL Violence Against Women Action Group

By email: helen.lorange@bigpond.com

8 June 2016

Australia Greens' domestic violence policy

Dear Mr L'Orange,

Thank you very much for your email of 27 May 2016 in relation to WEL's *Women & Children's Safety Program* proposal and seeking further information on the Australian Greens' *Confronting our Domestic Violence Crisis* policy.

The Greens support WEL's proposal for increased funding, and we have committed to a policy platform that is more ambitious again.

The Australian Greens have committed to a new **10-year, \$5 billion National Partnership Agreement on Domestic Violence and Violence Against Women** to fund services such as crisis phone services, women's shelters, training for service providers, counselling, perpetrator interventions, and other specialist domestic violence services. Funding would be \$500 million per year on top of existing federal funding for homelessness services.

As part of that policy package, and on top of our proposed new National Partnership Agreement, we have committed to a range of other initiatives including legal assistances, capital expenditure on new shelters, universal access to 10 days' domestic violence leave and others.

Another element of our policy package is a commitment to support the *Safety First in Family Law* campaign from Women's Legal Services Australia. The Greens have committed \$60 million over 4 years to implement this plan including reform of the Family Law Act, specialist workers in Family Court registries and legally-assisted and supported family dispute resolution.

Please find my media release announcing the policy [here](#) and the full policy document including more details **attached** and online here: <http://greens.org.au/domestic-violence>

In developing our policy, the Australian Greens consulted with front line service providers and were informed by the recommendations of the Victorian Royal Commission on Family



Parliament of Australia
The Senate

Senator Larissa Waters

Australian Greens Senator for Queensland



Violence, the Queensland Bryce inquiry, the Senate inquiry on domestic violence and the COAG Advisory Panel.

In addition to the *Confronting our Domestic Violence Crisis* policy, the Greens have also committed to double funding for specialist homelessness services under existing programs including the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness and the National Affordable Housing Agreement for a total federal funding commitment of \$1.1 billion per year. Full details can be found here: <http://greens.org.au/homeless>.

The Greens will also be announcing further measures addressing primary prevention of violence against women in the coming weeks.

Please feel free to contact my office on 07 3367 0566 if I can be of assistance.

Kind regards,

Senator Larissa Waters
Australian Greens Senator for Queensland and spokesperson for Women