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**MEDIA RELEASE:**

**Appointment of a National Lived Experience Advisory Council to amplify the voices of people with lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence**

**Ms Micaela Cronin**

Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner

The Australian Government has established a Lived Experience Advisory Council (the Advisory Council) to amplify the voices of people with lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence at the national level.

The Advisory Council will share advice with the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission (the Commission) to create and improve domestic, family and sexual violence policy, systems and services and report on implementation and progress towards the objectives of the [National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-23](#).

Micaela Cronin, Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner, said that centring and amplifying the voices of people with lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence is crucial to ending violence against women and children.

“If we are to achieve the goal of ending violence against women and children, then we must ensure that the voices of those who have experienced domestic, family and sexual violence are deeply listened to and meaningfully engaged,” Ms Cronin said.

“We are committed to working together with people who have lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence; through the Advisory Council people with lived experience will have an equal role in the creation and delivery of new initiatives.”

“The appointment of the Advisory Council demonstrates the Australian Government’s commitment to amplify the voices of individuals with lived experience in national conversations.”

Seven lived experience advocates have been appointed until March 2024 to steward the formation of the Advisory Council and ensure necessary and appropriate processes and supports are established.

Between August and September 2023, the Commission held an open and transparent, national Expression of Interest process to recruit up to 12 members to the Advisory Council.

The Commission received 419 applications through this Expression of Interest and is now conducting a rigorous selection process.

Members appointed through the Expression of Interest will be offered a 24-month term.

To view the seven appointments visit [www.dfsvc.gov.au](http://www.dfsvc.gov.au)



Australian Government



Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission

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*If you or someone you know is impacted by sexual or family violence, call 1800RESPECT on [1800 737 732](tel:1800737732), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week or visit [www.1800RESPECT.org.au](http://www.1800RESPECT.org.au)*

*Feeling worried or no good? No shame, no judgement, safe place to yarn. Speak to a 13YARN Crisis Supporter, call [13 92 76](tel:139276). This service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.*

*If you are concerned about your behaviour or use of violence, you can contact the Men's Referral Service on [1300 766 491](tel:1300766491) or visit [www.ntv.org.au](http://www.ntv.org.au).*