

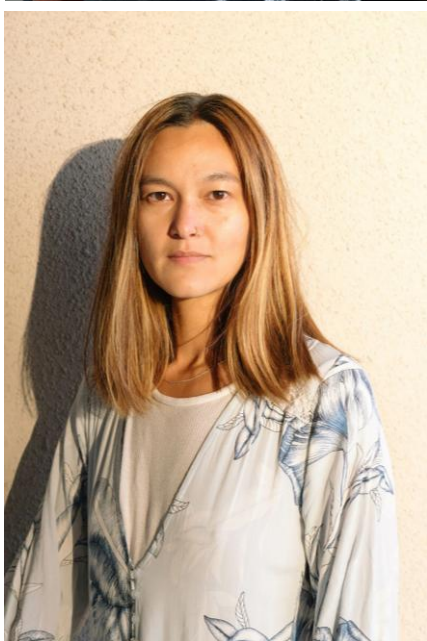


Embolden's Statement

Release of the report of the Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence

Embolden is the peak body for domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) services in South Australia and represents 26 organisations and discrete services delivering specialist services statewide.

Embolden led the call for a Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence at the end of 2023, following a week in which four South Australian women were murdered.



South Australia's Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence commenced on 1 July 2024, led by Natasha Stott Despoja AO. The Commissioner's Report [With Courage: South Australia's vision beyond violence](#) was released publicly on 19 August 2025, along with the [Voices](#) Report, a dedicated document reflecting the voices of people with lived and living experience.

The Commissioner's Report reflects powerfully the voices of South Australians with lived experience of domestic, family and sexual violence. It also acknowledges the significant history of the women's safety sector in SA and the expertise of specialist services.

The Commissioner's 136 recommendations are a blueprint for transformative change. We know that system reform takes time. We have a vital opportunity to get it right and for South Australia to again be a national leader in preventing and responding to domestic, family and sexual violence.



As a sector, we'll take some time to consider and respond to the Commissioner's recommendations in detail. **At a high level, our sector welcomes key overarching recommendations for system reform**, including those that aim to:

- Further develop an accessible and inclusive state-wide 24/7 entry point for supports
- Embed place-based integrated service responses that effectively meet the needs of individuals and families
- Improve risk assessment and management statewide
- Scale up the focus on people using violence to prevent future violence
- Transform supports for children and young people as victim-survivors in their own right
- Substantially increase sustainable investment in DFSV services, with greater funding flexibility

- Develop a longer-term investment approach to drive supply of domestic and family violence accommodation
- Grow and support our vital DFSV workforce, including in regional and remote areas
- Strengthen the victim-survivor focus and trauma-responsiveness of key systems, including health, police and the broader justice system
- Address the challenges faced by survivors of sexual violence, including in regional areas, and the need for alternative reporting pathways
- Improve community awareness of DFSV and establish strong foundations for prevention

In particular, Embolden welcomes the recommendation that the State Government fund Embolden to establish an Advisory Group to the Implementation and Impact Monitor for the State Government's Implementation Plan (Rec 8).

Embolden commends the Premier's announcement that **the State Government has accepted seven recommendations** and will deliver its formal response to the recommendations in their totality by the end of the year. The Premier has committed to:

- A standalone ministerial portfolio for domestic, family and sexual violence (Rec 1)
- Appointment of a Government Steward to lead whole-of-government implementation (Rec 2)
- An Implementation Plan by the Senior Leadership Committee (Rec 4)
- Chief Executives held accountable through performance agreements (Rec 9)
- A five-year statewide strategy and a standalone strategy led by and for Aboriginal South Australians (Rec 10)
- Lived Experience Advisory Networks for adults and children/young people (Recs 11 and 12)

Embolden also **commends the Premier's clear statements acknowledging the importance of regulating the online sale and delivery of alcohol** in addressing domestic, family and sexual violence, and his commitment to expedite the Government's response to the liquor licensing recommendations in the Commissioner's report.

In South Australia, we have been under-investing in preventing and responding to domestic, family and sexual violence for some time. We **call on the State Government to undertake the rapid expenditure review of State Government funding as an absolute priority** (Rec 4).

Embolden has also strongly advocated for independent monitoring of progress against the Royal Commission recommendations and **urge the State Government to establish an Implementation and Impact Monitor** (Rec 7).

The expertise of people with lived experience and specialist services must be central in the implementation of the Commissioner's recommendations and we look forward to working collaboratively with the State Government.

The Royal Commission's recommendations will drive investment in our service systems where it is most needed. We have the required experience and skills here in our state and **we call on the South Australian Government to direct funding to South Australian organisations.**

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