



Embolden's Statement South Australian 2026-27 State Budget

In the wake of South Australia's Royal Commission into domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV), the State Government's commitments to addressing DFSV in this budget reflect its previously announced investment of \$673.6 million over 10 years (including \$231.6 million to 2029-30).

To date, the majority of new DFSV funding has gone to SA Police (\$182.8 million). **In addition to a modest uplift in funding for specialist crisis response services, Embolden welcomes the investment in supports for victim-survivors of violence in this budget**, including:

- \$82.6 million over 10 years for an uplift in services for children, young people and families experiencing violence, delivered through the Child and Family Support System;
- \$25 million over 10 years for an improved 24/7 central telephone and digital support line; and
- \$36.2 million over 10 years to improve access to forensic medical examinations for victim-survivors of sexual violence, including those living regionally and remotely.



To reduce the impacts of domestic, family and sexual violence in our communities, we must strengthen our focus on those causing harm. **We welcome the \$43.7 million over 10 years to expand prevention approaches and strengthen services focused on people using violence**, as well as \$2.7 million over five years for an additional 60 electronic monitoring devices.



While the commitment to 3.3% indexation is an improvement on the 2025-26 figure, the recent announcement of a (welcome) 4.75% wage increase under the SCHADS Award will compound the pressure on services already stretched beyond capacity. **Funding for frontline DFSV services must meet the real and rising costs of service delivery, including the higher costs for those operating in regional and remote areas.**

South Australia is at the start of a complex and long-term reform of our domestic, family and sexual violence systems and services. We know that government cannot do or fund everything at once. However, **we need greater investment in frontline specialist DFSV services across the continuum from prevention and early intervention to longer-term recovery and healing**, as well as improved crisis response. This is critical if we are to reduce the prevalence of domestic, family and sexual violence in our communities. Embolden will continue to ensure that the perspectives and needs of frontline specialist services and the diverse people we support are front and centre in our state's DFSV reforms and future investment decisions.

Finally, we note that there was virtually no detail in the budget papers in relation to domestic, family and sexual violence funding commitments outlined in the Budget Overview. Transparency in funding allocations is a critical element of government accountability, and **we call for greater visibility of DFSV funding decisions in future budgets.**