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| Brief description  Local Motel[[1]](#footnote-2) Coordination Projects  June 2022 |



# Background

A new Family Violence Crisis Response Model is being implemented in 2022-23. The model aims to ensure that victim survivors in crisis are supported through coordinated responses which are consistent, clearly communicated, and jointly managed by the services involved. It prioritises the provision of local crisis support, where possible, and in line with victim survivor choice and safety.

Project funding for 12-months to June 2023 has been allocated a Local Family Violence Motel Coordination Project in each DFFH area, which will support the implementation of the new Family Violence Crisis Response Model. Three of the local projects will span two DFFH areas.

More information on the Implementation of the Family Violence Crisis Response Model is set out in the Sector Implementation Overview – Case Management Program Requirements and Crisis Responses Model (distributed in March 2022 and available through Family Safety Victoria).

## Key objectives for Local Family Violence Motel Coordination Projects

The overall aim of the local projects is to increase safety for victim survivors of family violence by optimising access to appropriate emergency accommodation options.

The key objectives of the local projects are to:

* Support a more co-ordinated, DFFH Area-level approach to the utilisation of motels for family violence emergency accommodation by developing systems and information sharing processes (including interagency protocols etc) between local agencies and with statewide services
* Develop DFFH-Area-level strategies to manage key risks and challenges related to identifying appropriate motel options and managing relationships with moteliers to increase access to suitable motel accommodation.
* Develop systems, information and resources to support:
  + safe and appropriate motel placements
  + management of relationships with moteliers which are sustainable beyond the funded project.

The nature of the issues and opportunities is likely to vary across DFFH Areas. Lead agencies will establish and work with a Local Project Group to tailor the local projects to the issues and opportunities in each DFFH Area.

In some DFFH Areas, the local projects may include a focus on actions to increase access to appropriate alternative emergency accommodation options, or broader actions that support the implementation of the Family Violence Crisis Response Model. These will need to be supported by the Local Project Group and agreed with Family Safety Victoria.

## Statewide work supporting the Local Projects

Family Safety Victoria will establish a statewide reference group to:

* Engage peaks, statewide services, Aboriginal services, and targeted family violence services on issues relevant to the use of motels for family violence emergency accommodation
* Coordinate relevant work by statewide services and assist in developing protocols between statewide and local services.
* Ensure exchange and interaction so the work undertaken though the local projects is supported by statewide initiatives and that these are informed by practice experience at the local level.

Safe & Equal (in partnership in Safe Steps) have developed guidance on identifying appropriate motels, establishing and maintaining relationships with moteliers, and managing issues and incidents (Key considerations for motel relationship management is to be distributed in June 2022 and is available through Family Safety Victoria).

## Scope of the Local Projects

* System development
* Whole of DFFH area
* Safety for victim survivors
* Suitability and accessibility of accommodation
* Coordination with statewide services
* Innovation
* Sustainability

## Project governance for the Local Projects

The lead agency will establish and work with a Local Project Group to ensure activities focus on the specific issues and opportunities related to the key project objectives across the DFFH area. Projects will require the active participation of a range of local services which utilise motels as an accommodation.

Membership of the Local Project Group should include representation from:

* + local family violence crisis response agencies (for example, The Orange Door partners who support victim survivors and the ACCO partner)
  + other local family violence support services, such as local after-hours services, ACCOs and perpetrator intervention services and including a local Family Violence Children’s Resource Worker
  + The Orange Door
  + Child Protection
  + Homelessness Access Point/s
  + Victoria Police
  + Corrections and youth justice
  + Local DFFH Area
  + Others, as determined locally

The approach to engagement and coordination, including the Terms of Reference for each Local Project Group will be determined locally. Consideration will be given to linking this work directly with a pre-existing interagency group, such as the Family Violence Regional Integration Committee or the Local Area Service Network (LASN).

The following local system development roles hold significant knowledge of the family violence and homelessness sectors, and it is recommended that the Project Facilitator work closely with these local workers:

* Principal Strategic Advisor (PSA) for the Family Violence Regional Integration Committee
* Homelessness Networkers and the Local Area Service Networks (LASNs)
* Service System Navigator (for The Orange Door)
* Dhelk Dja Regional Co-ordinator and Chair for the Dhelk Dja Action Group in the area

## Local Project Groups will be required to produce:

1. Project Plan describing how the key stages of the project will be undertaken
2. Current State Mapping Report
3. Priority Actions Report
4. Local System Development Action Plan
5. Final Report on the achievements of the project.

To receive this document in another format, phone 1300 758 554, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or [email Family Safety Victoria](mailto:reception@familysafety.vic.gov.au), <reception@familysafety.vic.gov.au>.

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In this document, ‘Aboriginal’ refers to both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. ‘Indigenous’ or ‘Koori/Koorie’ is retained when part of the title of a report, program or quotation.

Available at [https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/local-motel-coordination-projects-brief-description-family-violence-crisis-responses](https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/local-motel-coordination-projects-brief-description-family-violence-crisis-responses%20) < https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/local-motel-coordination-projects-brief-description-family-violence-crisis-responses >

1. The term ‘motel’ is used to describe private sector accommodation including motels, hotels, caravan parks etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)