



Minister for Communities, Women and Youth
Minister for Child Safety
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence

Your reference: 2492-15
Our reference: COM 09373-2015

Level 13
111 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 806 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7500
Facsimile +61 7 3012 7704
Email communities@ministerial.qld.gov.au

4 JAN 2016

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

I refer to Petition 2492-15 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 1 December 2015 regarding the duration of domestic violence orders.

Domestic and family violence is one of the most serious and complex issues facing our society and combating this horrific issue is a priority for the Palaszczuk Government. This government is determined to reduce the devastating effects of domestic and family violence and improve outcomes for women, men and children who are affected by it.

As you may be aware, on 18 August 2015, the Palaszczuk Government accepted all 140 recommendations of the *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland* report delivered by the Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland.

The Taskforce made a number of specific recommendations for legislative amendment, which are being prioritised and implemented by the Queensland Government. In addition, the Taskforce recommended an overarching review of the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* to ensure it provides a cohesive legislative framework for domestic and family violence, which incorporates major reforms recommended in its report.

The Taskforce report went on to identify issues for consideration in the review, including clarifying the circumstances in which a protection order may be extended beyond two years.

The overarching review of the Act is being undertaken by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. In accordance with the Taskforce report, the duration of protection orders is one of the issues being examined.

If you require any further information or assistance in relation to this matter, please contact Ms Cynthia Kennedy, Chief of Staff in my office on 3719 7500.

Yours sincerely

Shannon Fentiman MP
Minister for Communities, Women and Youth
Minister for Child Safety
Minister for Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence