



Our ref: DHS/19/02756  
Your ref: 7257887

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Ms Nat Cook MP  
Member for Hurtle Vale  
PO Box 158  
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Sent by email: [tristan.rust@parliament.sa.gov.au](mailto:tristan.rust@parliament.sa.gov.au)

Dear Ms Cook

I refer to your application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (the Act), received by the Department of Human Services (DHS) on 5 February 2019, seeking access to:

*Copies of any and all documents (including but not limited to physical and electronic material) regarding DHS, SAHT, SAHA or Ministerial Paper 18MHS/0683*

Four documents were located that fit within the scope of your request and I have determined to release these documents in full. Please find enclosed a copy of the documents released, and a document schedule containing a brief description of each document and determination in summary form.

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access, may/will be published on the agency's disclosure log. A copy of PC045 can be found at <http://dpc.sa.gov.au/what-we-do/services-for-government/premier-and-cabinet-circulars>.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter, please contact Fiona Braendler, Senior FOI Officer, on telephone 8413 9094 or by email at [DHSFreedomofInformation@sa.gov.au](mailto:DHSFreedomofInformation@sa.gov.au). If you disagree with publication, you will need to advise the Senior FOI Officer within two weeks of the date of this determination.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Schutz  
**ACCREDITED FOI OFFICER**

4 / 03 / 2019

### SCHEDULE OF DOCUMENTS – DHS/19/02756

Freedom of information application from Nat Cook MP seeking access to copies of any and all documents (including but not limited to physical and electronic material) regarding DHS, SAHT, SAHA or Ministerial Paper 18MHS/0683.

No	Author	Date	Description of document	Determination	Reason
1.	Hannah Fairlamb, Policy Officer, Office for Women	10/09/2018	Briefing – 18MHS/0683 - Invitation to Attend Junction Australia Event 'Not So Pretty: Unmasking Domestic Violence'	Released in full	No exempt material
2.			Attachment 1 to Document 1 - News article	Released in full	No exempt material
3.			Attachment 2 to Document 1 - Draft speaking points	Released in full	No exempt material
4.			Attachment 3 to Document 1 - Draft running sheet	Released in full	No exempt material

18MHS/0683



Government of South Australia  
Department of Human Services


TO MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES

RE: INVITATION TO ATTEND JUNCTION AUSTRALIA EVENT 'NOT SO PRETTY:  
UNMASKING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE'

Decision/action required by: 27/09/2018

Reason: This is the date of the event

Recommendation	Response
1. That you use the information provided in this briefing as background for your attendance at the above mentioned event	Approved / Not Approved / <u>Noted</u>
2. That you approve the attached draft speaking points	<u>Approved</u> / Not Approved / Noted

<b>Comments:</b> ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... .....	 Hon Michelle Lensink MLC 10 / 9 / 2018
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## PURPOSE

To provide you with background information on Junction Australia and draft speaking points for your attendance at this event.

## KEY POINTS

- You have been invited to attend an event organised by Junction Australia featuring Ms Vanessa Fowler, Chair of the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation and sister of Allison; and a representative from the MATE Bystander Program developed by Griffith University
- You have been invited to speak prior to Ms Fowler

## RISKS/SENSITIVITIES

A recent Sunday Mail article claimed that Ms Fowler stated that "mandatory notification of domestic violence is the first step to ensuring family, friends and professionals can help women escape Allison's fate". However advice from Junction Australia refutes this stating that "Vanessa is keen to emphasise that she will definitely NOT be using the event as any sort of platform to call for mandatory reporting of DV as reported in the Sunday Mail. She

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feels her comments were somewhat taken out of context in the recent news article." The complete news article is provided as an attachment to this briefing (attachment 1).

Domestic, family and sexual violence is a topic that can prove distressing thus there is a risk that attendees at this event may have difficulties with the topics covered.

## DISCUSSION

On 31 July you received an invitation from Ms Danielle Gordon, Communications Manager, Junction Australia to attend an event titled 'Not So Pretty - Unmasking Domestic Violence'. The event is stated to be for the purpose of 'Helping business and community recognise domestic violence and empowering action to end it', and will be held 11:45am-1pm on Thursday 27 September 2018 at the John Halbert Room, Adelaide Oval. Junction Australia CEO Maria Palumbo will emcee the event.

Advice sought from Junction Australia stated that the aim of the event is to increase awareness about signs of domestic violence and how the community can help end it. A strong narrative for the event will be supporting people to be active bystanders; and to highlight that domestic violence is not limited to physical abuse but includes emotional, verbal and sexual abuse.

You have been invited to attend and speak at this event prior to the keynote speaker, Ms Vanessa Fowler (Chair, Allison Baden-Clay Foundation and sister of Allison).

Queensland woman Allison Baden-Clay was murdered in 2012 by her husband following many years of abuse behind closed doors. The case received a significant amount of media attention as Ms Baden-Clay was a middle class mother of three, and the symptoms of her abuse were not visible to those around her. Ms Baden-Clay was reported missing by her husband 10 days before her body was found 13km from her home in a creek bed.

The Allison Baden-Clay Foundation is based in Queensland and works to build a community that acknowledges the prevalence of domestic and family violence; and is committed to eliminating and taking concrete action to stop domestic and family violence.

Through a partnership with Griffith University's MATE Bystander Program, the Foundation aims to work together to educate people on effective bystander intervention and recognising the signs of domestic violence and family violence. The Director of the MATE program, Shaan Ross-Smith, will also be speaking at this event.

The MATE Bystander Program was created by Griffith University as an education and intervention program which aims to teach people how to be active bystanders in preventing violence and harmful behaviour. A program has been developed in partnership between the MATE program and the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation for delivery in business and corporate environments and incorporating Allison's story.

In November 2015, the previous Director of the program Dr Shannon Spriggs-Murdoch presented at an event that was part of the whole of Government White Ribbon Accreditation Program at Adelaide Oval. A number of Chief Executives in attendance indicated their commitment to bystander training. Awareness Raising Training under the MATE program was provided by Dr Spriggs-Murdoch through PIRSA in late 2016/early 2017.

According to advice from Junction Australia Ms Fowler will speak about her sister Allison's story, explaining the signs of abuse that were missed by her family and those that they noticed but did not address. Ms Fowler will also speak about what she is doing to foster

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Allison's legacy. Junction Australia have also advised that Ms Ross-Smith will speak about practical tips about recognising signs of domestic violence and what they can do to help break the cycle, with the victim's safety (and their own) as paramount.

Junction Australia have asked that you speak about the actions being undertaken by the Marshall Government, and how these measures complement what the community can do to prevent and end domestic violence. The advice adds that you may wish to point out that education is key, and discuss the range of services and initiatives delivered by OFW and key partners. You may also wish to draw on any personal experiences advocating for victims of domestic violence.

Junction Australia advise that CEO Maria Palumbo will focus on the notion that action to prevent domestic violence is not solely the responsibility of Government and that it is everyone's responsibility, and also about understanding the challenges for victims in these situations.

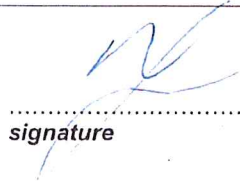

Junction Australia advise that capacity for the event is 120-150 attendees and that they currently have sold around 100 tickets, with strong representation from the community and not-for-profit sector, as well as the corporate sector. Junction Australia will provide a list of attendees closer to the date of the event.

The event is not a fundraiser for Junction Australia. All proceeds will go to the Allison Baden-Clay Foundation.

Draft speaking points are attached for your consideration (attachment 2). A draft running sheet has also been provided by Junction Australia and is attached for your information (attachment 3).

#### BUDGET

Are there financial implications	No
Is there a budget impact	No
Is there an FTE impact	No

<b>Division</b>	Office for Women		
<b>Director</b>	Fiona Mort		28.8.18
		signature	
<b>Chief Executive</b>	Tony Harrison		29.8.18
		signature	

#### ATTACHMENTS

1. News article
2. Draft speaking points
3. Draft running sheet

<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Hannah Fairlamb, Policy Officer 830 30579 / hannah.fairlamb@sa.gov.au
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# Report domestic violence to save more lives, says murder victim Alison Baden-Clay's sister

Rebecca DiGirolamo, Sunday Mail (SA)

August 4, 2018 7:00pm

Subscriber only

THE sister of murder victim Allison Baden-Clay says mandatory notification of domestic violence is the first step to ensuring family, friends and professionals can help women escape Allison's fate.

Vanessa Fowler, director of the [Allison Baden-Clay Foundation](#), will tell an Adelaide audience at a Junction Australia event next month that the role of bystanders in ending domestic and family violence is critical.

Allison was killed by her husband in Queensland in 2012. The case produced a national uproar when Gerard Baden-Clay's murder conviction was downgraded to manslaughter, but it was later reinstated by the High Court.

"As a society we are brought up to mind our own business and that what happens in someone else's marriage should be left behind closed doors," Mrs Fowler said.

"But this needs to change. Putting mandatory reporting in place will show the country that domestic violence is our business and gives us the capacity to do something about it."

She said a domestic violence reporting line would enable mandated professionals and non-mandated families and friends to raise the alarm of suspected violence.

"Domestic violence is hidden. It's not always a black eye, and there isn't always abuse that you can see, but there are signs and most family and friends, and those working in the field of women's services, need a way to report and investigate without fear of making things worse," she said.

There is no mandated requirement anywhere in Australia, unlike for child abuse.

Under SA's Children's Protection Act, a mandated notifier must tell the Department for Child Protection if they suspect a child has or is being abused or neglected.

Mandated notifiers include police, doctors, dentists, psychologists, pharmacists, social workers and teachers. Under the Act, a mandated notifier can be anonymous and is immune from civil liability for reporting a suspicion in good faith.

Women's Safety Services SA CEO Maria Hagias said mandated requirements for domestic violence would require comprehensive consultation processes to ensure the safety of women and children.

SA Attorney-General Vickie Chapman would not comment on mandatory notification but said new legislation would ensure victims were notified of updated parole or bail conditions of perpetrators.

Other changes would expand the definition of domestic violence, allow body-worn police camera evidence, create a new offence of non-fatal strangulation and raise intervention order penalties.

Originally published as [Why family violence reporting should be mandatory](#)

## **SPEECH NOTES**

Hon Michelle Lensink MLC  
MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES



**Government  
of South Australia**

**‘Not so pretty: Unmasking domestic violence’  
Junction Australia**

### **Acknowledgements:**

Assistant Minister for Domestic and Family Violence Prevention, Ms Carolyn Power MP  
Ms Vanessa Fowler, sister of Allison Baden-Clay  
Ms Shaan Ross-Smith, Director of Griffith University’s MATE Bystander Program  
Ms Maria Palumbo CEO Junction Australia



- We acknowledge that the land we meet on today is the traditional lands for the Kurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their Country. We also acknowledge the Kurna people as the traditional custodians of the Adelaide region and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still as important to the living Kurna people today.
- I acknowledge:
  - Assistant Minister for Domestic and Family Violence Prevention, Ms Carolyn Power MP
  - Ms Vanessa Fowler, sister of Allison Baden-Clay
  - Ms Shaan Ross-Smith, Director of Griffith University's MATE Bystander Program
  - Ms Maria Palumbo CEO Junction Australia
- Thank you Maria for the invitation to be here today.
- We are here to support an event titled 'Not so pretty: Unmasking domestic violence', it is sad that events like this need to happen but I am always encouraged by the proactive work community organisations do in this space.
- It is critical that government at all levels works together with community to achieve positive and lasting change in this area.
- Going into the election we made a range of commitments aimed at preventing domestic and family violence, including:
  - A funded peak body for domestic violence services;
  - A personal protection app;

- A twelve month statewide trial of a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme that will begin 2 October <sup>[FM1]</sup>this year;
  - Expanding safety hubs across South Australia co locating services;
  - Increasing crisis accommodation;
  - Delivering a 24/7 specialist domestic crisis line;
  - More targeted rehabilitation for perpetrators of domestic violence.
- Since March we have held four domestic violence roundtables with service providers in the domestic, family and sexual violence space – one metropolitan and two regional (held in Berri and Mount Gambier), with two more scheduled in early October to be held in Whyalla and Port Lincoln.
  - We are ensuring that these election commitments are implemented in close consultation with stakeholders to ensure best practice.
  - Recently consultation was conducted by the Attorney-General on a range of proposed legislative reforms that will further strengthen domestic and family violence laws through changes such as:
    - Creating a new offence for non-fatal strangulation;
    - Increasing penalties for repeated breaches of intervention orders;
    - Adding a specific reference to forced marriage in the state's intervention order laws, meaning that forced marriage will be clearly defined as a form of abuse and can be used as the basis for seeking an intervention order;
    - Allowing video evidence recorded by police to be used in court; and
    - Expanding the definition of domestic abuse to include more types of relationships and abusive behaviours.

- These are some of the initiatives that our government is implemented. However we know that to prevent domestic and family violence we need the whole community to be involved.
- Events such as this continue to educate the community about the role they can play in creating safer communities for everyone. We will hear soon about one such initiative aiming to education the community about their role as bystanders.
- It is also important that we maintain the national conversations that aim to ensure that victims are not blamed for the violence they are experiencing and that we all play our part in challenging sexist comments, discriminatory actions and social norms.
- Organisations such as Our Watch (of which South Australia is a member) are harnessing this conversation and educating the community about the role that gender inequality plays in enabling violence against women to occur. Together with White Ribbon Australia, which is focused on harnessing the role that men can play in prevention, and movements such as 'hashtag Me Too', our community is making a difference.
- Later in the year we again engage the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence that provides another opportunity to harness our discussions and promote the role of the community. The 16 days begins on 25 November - the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women - and runs until 10 December - International Human Rights Day.
- As we hear from Vanessa and Shaan I hope we will consider what role we can play in preventing domestic, family and sexual violence. We all have a role in influencing the people we meet in places where we live, work and play.
- Thankyou to Junction Australia and to Maria for hosting this event. Thanks also to Vanessa Fowler for giving her time and commitment through her own loss, and to Shaan Ross-Smith for your guidance on bystander intervention.

- I look forward myself to increasing my knowledge and skills to become better equipped as a bystander.
- Thank you again for inviting me to say a few words today.

**ENDS.**

## Draft running sheet

### Junction Australia event 'Not So Pretty – Unmasking Domestic Violence'

**11:45am – 1pm Thursday 27 September 2018, John Halbert Room, Adelaide Oval**

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11:45am – 12:05pm	Guests arrive. Light networking lunch standing/casual seating
12:05pm	Maria encourages guests to be seated in informal lecture style
12:10pm	Maria welcomes guests, provides a short introduction of the rationale behind the event and Junctions work in the DV space. Introduces Minister Lensink (if Minister able to speak or Minister's representative).
12:15pm	Minister Lensink provides opening remarks
12:20pm	Maria thanks Minister and introduces Vanessa Fowler to speak
12:40pm	Vanessa's presentation concludes. Followed straight by Shaan Ross-Smith, Director of the MATE Bystander program.
12:50pm	Q and A
1pm	Maria thanks speakers, guests and closes event. Guests invited to stay to chat if they have time.